

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Commercial break
BBC chairman Stuart
Young talks about
competition and TV
advertising



High fliers
In pursuit of pleasure
and conservation, the art
of falconry takes off

No frills
Newmarket stages the
first team race between
men and women jockeys

Mining interests
Woodrow Wyatt on why
the NUM should have
been more wary of Libya

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won yesterday by Mr James Flynn who lives in London. Portfolio list, page 20. How to play, information service, back page

Stronger control of RUC urged

A new and tougher authority to supervise the Royal Ulster Constabulary, and the disbandment of the part-time Ulster Defence Regiment as the RUC takes over more security functions, was recommended yesterday by a 12-man independent inquiry team headed by Lord Kilbrandon.

Dispute over priest's Mass

Many thousands of Poles are expected to turn out tomorrow for the funeral of Father Popieluszko, but a row has broken out between Solidarity and the authorities over where the funeral Mass and burial should take place.

Divorce vote

Proposals for the remarriage of divorcees in church have been rejected in most dioceses to have voted on the issue. The trend means the end of the scheme drawn up by the bishops.

Pound rises

Sterling rose 1.3 cents to £1.2310 in London and reached £1.2340 in early trading in New York on hopes of an imminent cut in US interest rates.

Warmest day

Yesterday was London's warmest November day since the London Weather Centre opened 24 years ago with temperatures reaching 66°F.

Road hazards

A man who refused to give a breath test was ordered back to a magistrates' court for conviction although he had been wrongly arrested and had not been driving.

Police appeal

The detective leading the hunt for the man who shot dead a police sergeant in Leeds has appealed for help from the killer's accomplice.

Montana hunt

A Montana sheriff is leading a manhunt in the Rockies for a father and son wanted for the kidnapping of a girl ski star and a murder.

End of the run

Zola Budd, who ran for Britain in the Los Angeles Olympics, is renouncing British citizenship and international athletics and staying in South Africa.

Leader, page 13

Letters: on Ethiopia, from Mr P Searle; Europe, from Sir Henry Plumb, MEP.

Leading articles: Unemployment; Homelessness; Mr Rifkind in Poland

Features, pages 10-12
The star chamber loses its shine; Rajiv Gandhi: CBI - Tory strains; Spectrum: poet turned film maker Yevtushenko

Manchester, pages 15-18

Obituary, page 14

Mr M. Babington Smith, Eduardo de Filippo

How a regional capital bounced back from recession and industrial blight

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Army called in to quell anti-Sikh violence in Delhi

Hindu mobs exact bloody revenge for Gandhi murder

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

A thin black haze of smoke, like a mourning shroud, hung over the capital of India yesterday as Hindu mobs took revenge on the Sikh community for the murder of the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi.

By late afternoon pillars of smoke smudged the horizon all round the city as Sikh properties, Sikh houses and Sikh vehicles were burned. Reports varied widely but one source said that hospitals around the city had reported at least 60 people had died in the violence.

United News of India reported last night that 115 people had been killed in countrywide rioting.

By evening the new Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, had given instructions that the mayhem should be stopped at all cost. For the first time since independence the Army was brought into the capital to keep order. The badly overstretched Delhi police force was withdrawn from the central and southern sectors of the city and the Army took over.

Curfews were established in three sections of the city, also for the first time. "The Prime Minister has given very strict instructions to all agencies concerned with law and order that at no cost should we allow these incidents to continue", said Mr M. M. K. Wali, the Home Secretary the senior civil servant in the Home Ministry. "Whatever means are necessary they should be used".

Elsewhere in the country mobs in towns with big Sikh communities also went on a spree of burning and looting.

Some of the worst incidents were in Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh. In Morena in Madhya Pradesh a train out of the Punjab capital of Chandigarh was stopped and 12 Sikhs were taken off and killed.

In Jabalpur the Army was called in to restore order, and indefinite curfew imposed. But Jabalpur was still causing concern. Mr Wali said last night.

Princess Anne, who has broken off her tour of India as president of the Save the Children Fund, will represent the Queen at the funeral of Mrs Gandhi in Delhi tomorrow. She will return home after the funeral.

The Foreign Office advised that other British people planning to visit the country to consider postponing the trip. It also warned the 3,500 British citizens in India to "keep their heads down" while the violence continued.

In Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh and in Lucknow, the state capital, only a rigidly-enforced curfew ended the sectarian clashes, but both towns were now under control, according to Mr Wali.

The Army was called in to Calcutta, too, to restore order among mobs who were setting fire to and looting Sikh-owned shops. In several places in the country people were killed by police firing as they struggled to restore order. Curfews were imposed in 30 big towns.

In Indore in Madhya Pradesh the historic palace of the Holkar Rajas in the centre of the city,

dominating the central square, was one of the places burnt by the irrational mobs.

In Delhi a number of Sikhs feeling they were threatened by a mob opened fire with automatic weapons. Several people in the crowd were killed. Outside a *cardwara*, a Sikh temple, a 12-bore shotgun was discharged into the crowd, and in response the enraged crowd invaded the temple.

I saw several bands of young men on the rampage in south Delhi. Beside the junction of the outer ring road and the airport road a gang of more than 100 armed with clubs and heavy baulks of wood gathered round a furiously burning tanker.

As they pulled away from it, several loud blasts sent a vast plume of flame and dense oily smoke into the sky. The gang, chery as a holiday stopped a bus only when they found none did they let it pass.

Along the outer ring road the way was blocked by a group of six vehicles including a mini bus and a Land-Rover, all burning fiercely. A petrol station near by was also set on fire, and was still burning late in the evening.

A Sikh shop in Vasant Vihar, a smart suburb where many foreigners live, was burning as I passed. When it was set alight a number of adjoining Hindu shops also caught fire.

On the inner ring road at South Extension, a busy new market area shops and boutiques were charred and open. In the middle of the road a vehicle was burning, and the fire was

Continued on back page, col 1



Mrs Gandhi's body lying in state at Teen Murti House, her father's former residence

Coal board abandons hope of deal with Scargill

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Senior National Coal Board officials are reconciled to the fact that it will not be possible to reach a negotiated settlement to the pit strike with Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and instead are hoping that pressure can be brought on the miners by the TUC and Labour Party.

In the wake of the final breakdown of peace talks, the emphasis of the board's strategy is likely to shift to trying to persuade the two wings of the labour movement to use every possible influence on the miners' union leadership to modify its consistently hard-line opposition to pit closures.

But in apparent anticipation of those developments, the union's executive in Sheffield yesterday decided to seek wider political and industrial support from the Labour Party, and TUC in an attempt to heighten the impact of the eight month strike.

A special rank-and-file delegate conference is to be held in Sheffield on Monday. Later there will be five mass regional rallies to which Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour

Party and Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, have been invited to speak.

The invitations to Mr Kinnock and Mr Willis were seen as attempts to preempt any moves by them to modify the miners' union's militant opposition to pit closures.

A meeting of the TUC's "inner cabinet", the finance and general purposes committee, will be held, probably on Tuesday. It may become the forum for an attempt by union leaders to draw the TUC into a more central negotiating role in the dispute.

The rallies, which are designed to wind up support among both the union rank and file and the public, are to be held in Edinburgh, Newcastle upon Tyne, Sheffield, Birmingham and Cardiff.

Some members of the union executive said that Mr Kinnock and Mr Willis had been told of the invitations and had accepted, although that could not be confirmed last night.

Mr James Cowan, the National Coal Board's deputy chairman, signalled the board's

acceptance that it may not be able to move miners' leaders away from their negotiating position. He said yesterday: "I do not see any hope whatsoever of reaching a settlement with Mr Scargill." There was no feeling whatsoever that the NUM, led by Mr Scargill, was making any effort at getting a settlement, he said.

Mr Cowan said that at least Mr Scargill's rhetoric had been consistent. "At least give him the benefit of consistency, but I give him no marks for negotiating."

Mr Ian MacGregor, the board chairman, said he was becoming "very discouraged" and argued that the miners' union had never shown any intention to negotiate an end to the dispute.

Senior board officials hope that their exhaustion of patience with the union will be shared by Mr Scargill's colleagues in the labour movement who they hope will seek to persuade him that the deal agreed with the pit deputies union, Nacods, is the best that he can possibly secure.

NUM chiefs used, page 2

Way is cleared for RAF airlift

By Rodney Cowton

After a 24-hour delay caused by doubts about the availability of facilities at Addis Ababa, the first three aircraft of the Royal Air Force's contribution to famine relief in Ethiopia are leaving Britain late last night.

They had been waiting to leave since Wednesday when, five hours before takeoff, Britain was informed that the airport at Addis Ababa was going to be too crowded to accommodate them. After nearly 24 hours of confusion word came through that they would after all be able to land at the Ethiopian capital, and yesterday afternoon the decision was taken to go ahead.

The aircraft were leaving RAF Lyneham, in Wiltshire, at about 10 pm on the first leg of their journey, to Akrotiri in Cyprus. They are expected to remain there for about 14 hours, and then to time their departure to arrive at Addis Ababa at first light tomorrow.

There was no indication what had caused the change of attitude in Addis Ababa. A statement by the British Ministry of Defence merely said: "The Ethiopian authorities have now agreed that we can operate from Addis Ababa for as long as we like, while a longer term solution is arranged."

One possible explanation for doubts about the capacity of Addis Ababa to cope with all the traffic may be seen in the fact that it was reported from Moscow that the Soviet Union was sending 40 aircraft with crews, as well as 400-500 lorries and water drilling equipment. Transport aircraft carrying helicopters would leave for Ethiopia today and more aid was on its way by ship.



Airlift plans: Flights between Addis Ababa and Makale will be a two-way shuttle

In the meantime, it was reported from Addis Ababa that a British TriStar carrying supplies bought from funds raised by the *Daily Mirror*, and with Mr Robert Maxwell, proprietor of the newspaper on board, had arrived there.

The RAF Hercules which left last night will be followed by a further four which are planned to leave this evening. Apart from a partial load on the seventh Hercules, virtually everything they carry will be equipment and supplies to

Continued on back page, col 2

Tear gas and tears around the catafalque

100,000 jostle to pay respects

At Teen Murti House in the heart of the ceremonial, official and diplomatic part of Delhi, 100,000 people yesterday had tears in their eyes. Some, as doubt, had tears of sadness at the loss of Mrs Gandhi. For most, the case was a period of tear gas (Michael Hamlyn writes).

Mrs Gandhi's body, head raised towards the crowds, was covered with flowers and the Indian tricolour of saffron, white and green. It lay in an open doorway with armed forces chiefs standing impassively at its head. At the feet of the catafalque, a violently scrambling crowd struggled for a last glimpse of her face.

From time to time, police barged into the crowd with *lathi* - long bamboo canes - and whistles. When the crowd got too out of hand, they charged it with gas. The crowd chanted: "Indira Gandhi... a-mah raba (may she live for ever)". If the people could raise an elbow in the crush, they threw marigolds.

Dignitaries tried to make their way through a private entrance, and some got past the crowd to hurry by and touch the corpse's feet, but many senior Delhi residents found themselves excluded. "Please try coming back later", pleaded a senior policeman, "when the crowds

have gone down". The crowds, however, showed no signs of going down.

The people became angry at times, and a number of Sikhs who turned up to pay their respects, were chased away. Stones were thrown at police on a few occasions, and a sergeant lay beside a first aid tent behind the museum building with his head lavishly encased.

Mrs Gandhi's body will lie in state at her father's former residence until the funeral tomorrow. From the Presidential Palace to the massive India Gate, was being lined with heavy fencing to prevent the crowds from surging into the path of the procession.

Number of jobless falls by 58,504

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Unemployment fell by 58,504 to 3,225,136 last month, as many school leavers entered work or training. However, adult unemployment set a record, and is rising at an underlying rate of 15,500 a month.

The figures were somewhat better than expected and dampened fears that September's record total indicated an acceleration in the growth of unemployment.

Mr Tom King, the Secretary



Tom King 'figures not worsening'

of State for Employment, said: "Today's figures tend to suggest that there is not the sort of severe worsening there appeared to be last month."

Adult unemployment, seasonally adjusted, rose 2,800 to a record 3,101,200 last month, after increases of 24,500 in September and 19,300 in August.

Part of the apparent slowdown, according to the Department of Employment, is because the September unemployment count was three days later than usual, having the effect of putting some of last month's unemployment rise into September.

The best guide to the jobless rise, Department of Employment says is the average monthly increase for the latest three months, 15,500.

The crude unemployment total, of 3,225,136, is 13.4 per cent of all employees. The adult total of 3,101,200 is 12.9 per cent of all adult employees.

Leading article, page 13

Argentina fails to win EEC votes

From Zoriana Pysarivsky

New York

Despite intense lobbying, Argentina yesterday failed in the United Nations General Assembly to isolate Britain from its European Partners and gain their support for a resolution calling on the two sides to resume negotiations on the sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

The assembly voted Argentina's way for the third time, with 89 votes in favour of the measure, nine against and 54 abstentions. But European abstentions took some of its victory away. The result was similar to last year's vote, when 87 countries were in favour of the resolution, nine were against and 54 abstained.

France, which held the key to the European vote, made clear that its abstention did not mean that it supported Mrs Margaret Thatcher's refusal to negotiate sovereignty, but was an affirmation of European solidarity.

The United States voted with Argentina.

Boy killed on school visit to Army camp

A boy aged 12, was killed and two other children injured yesterday when a Fox armoured personnel carrier overturned during a school visit to the Army's training camp at Bovington, Dorset. A soldier in the First Royal Tank Regiment was also injured. (Tony Samstag writes).

The boy, David Alergant, was with a party from Farleigh School, Andover, Hampshire. None of the injured was thought to be in a serious condition. They were taken to Poole General Hospital.

Lord Trefgarne, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, who was in the area went immediately to Bovington for a personal briefing.

Credit card deal on legal bills

By Francis Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitor's clients will soon be able to stagger the cost of large legal bills by paying them with credit cards.

The Law Society has reached agreement in principle with Access on payment of bills by credit card and it is hoped the scheme may be in operation within two months. Similar agreements are planned with Barclaycard and other companies.

Mr Alan Coles, chairman of the society's professional purposes committee, said: "We hope solicitors' firms of all sizes will be attracted to offer credit card facilities because it will be a good thing for the client to be able to spread the load."

Many people were not eligible for legal aid and yet

could not afford litigation if large bills had to be settled in one payment, he said.

The Law Society council agreed in July to allow payment of solicitor's bills by credit card. But many difficulties including that of confidentiality had to be considered before agreement in principle could be reached.

"A solicitor's bill may be sent out stating that it is for advice on matrimonial affairs but not everyone would want credit card companies to know that they are having matrimonial problems," Mr Coles said. It has been agreed therefore that the bill would simply state "for legal services."

Another difficulty was the liability of credit card com-

panies, as well as the solicitor, if a client decided to sue for negligence. Solicitors wanted to be sure they would not surrender any rights to Access, Mr Coles said.

In such cases credit card companies are expected to agree to be nominal defendants only leaving the action to be dealt with by the solicitor who is covered by professional indemnity insurance.

It will be for individual firms to make arrangements with the credit card companies and agree terms for using the facility. But Mr Coles emphasized that the cost would not be passed on to the client.

"The solicitor must charge the same fee as he would do anyone and he then pays a percentage to the company."

Libya declares food drive for striking pitmen

Collections are being organized in Libyan workplaces for British miners. It was announced yesterday from Tripoli.

Mr Arthur Scargill, President of the National Union of Mineworkers, said: "We have not received any food from Libya or any other aid."

He expressed surprise that Independent Television News, which interviewed Colonel Gaddafi last night, was prepared to talk to a leader of whom so many people disapproved.

Colonel Gaddafi, who met Mr Roger Windsor, NUM chief executive, in Tripoli, told ITN that five miners had been killed "by the police of the Government."



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Wrongly arrested man to be convicted for refusing breath test

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A man who refused to give a breath specimen was yesterday ordered back to a magistrates' court for conviction although he had been wrongly arrested and had not been driving.

That might seem odd and unjust, but it was precisely the law introduced by Parliament in the Transport Act 1981 which amended the Road Traffic Act 1972, a High Court judge said.

Now Mr Barry Hayes, aged 41, an antique furniture salesman, of Pitsea, Essex, faces possible disqualification from driving and penalties of a fine of up to £500 or up to three months imprisonment.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Mr Justice Nolan, allowed an appeal by the police against a decision by Southend magistrates to acquit Mr Hayes of failing, without reasonable excuse, to provide a breath specimen at Rayleigh police station.

Lord Justice Watkins said: "There is no suggestion whatsoever of any misconduct on the part of the police, wrong though they might have been."

"The question as to whether any lawful arrest has been made is wholly irrelevant to the vital question of whether at the

police station, no matter how he came there, Mr Hayes failed, without reasonable excuse, to provide a specimen when required to do so."

Mr Hayes, who was in court for the judges' ruling, told them: "I find it frightening that police have the right to enter anybody's home without any reasonable suspicion, and, if you are having a drink, take you down to a police station."

Mr Hayes was also cleared by the magistrates last January of failing to stop and report an accident and of careless driving. The police did not challenge those acquittals yesterday.

Mr Hayes's car had been stolen shortly before it was involved in the accident. The magistrates awarded him £400 costs against the police after deciding that he was not the driver. They said that had the arresting officers allowed him to give a full explanation at the scene of the accident they too would have reached that conclusion.

Yesterday Mr John Spencer, clerk to the Weymouth justices and co-editor of a standard text book on road traffic law, said the judges had merely stated the

law "as I understand it has been for some time."

The police were entitled to require a specimen provided that they believed or suspected an offence may have been committed, he said. "Motorists are then obliged to provide a specimen and if they do not, they risk conviction of the offence of failing to provide without reasonable excuse."

That law related to both breath specimens and blood and urine tests, he said. Courts had held that the non-commission of the offence itself was not a reasonable excuse for a failure to provide the specimen.

"If it was, everyone would argue they thought they had not committed an offence and refuse to provide a specimen," he said. Reasonable grounds for refusal might be medical circumstances, he added.

The penalties were quite high because a number of motorists did refuse breath tests believing that if they did so, their high blood-alcohol levels would not be detected. If the motorist was found to have been driving, or attempting to drive, the disqualification was automatic and in a standard case would be for 18 months.



Princess Alexandra greeting pupils of Gumley House School, Isleworth, west London, after opening Brentford Watermans arts centre yesterday. Children who catch one of 1,000 balloons released in celebration will win reduced entry prices to shows and films this month. (Photographs Bill Warhurst).

Killer son's claim on estate

Charles Ireland, aged 22, who killed his parents is claiming a half share of their £500,000 estate under new legislation the Forfeiture Act, which allows courts to modify the rule of public policy preventing anyone guilty of another's death from benefiting from it.

Ireland, aged 22, a farm labourer, shot his parents Mr Charles Ireland and Mrs Joan Ireland, in 1982 on the family farm after claiming he had endured slavery, beatings and sexual abuse. He was cleared of murder and walked free after being found guilty on a lesser charge of manslaughter.

His claim has been contested by his grandparents, Mr Jack Knights and Mrs Mary Knight.

Baby hazard ruled out in scanning

Ultrasonic scans used on mothers-to-be are not a hazard to babies, studies published today in *The Lancet* say. There have been fears that scanning unborn babies could increase the risks of childhood cancer.

In one study, researchers in Birmingham compared 1,731 children who died of cancer with an equal number who did not. They said exposure to ultrasound did not differ between the two groups, and concluded that "ultrasound is safe as regards the risk of cancer and leukaemia".

In the second, involving researchers in Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham and Oxford, 555 children with cancer

were compared with 1,110 healthy children.

Their observations found no "significant association between exposure to ultrasound examination in pregnancy and the risk of childhood cancer".

But the Department of Health and Social Security does not believe scans should be routine for pregnant women. A spokesman said ministers were waiting for the Medical Research Council to assess the evidence.

An ultrasound machine uses sound waves to produce a picture of the unborn baby on a screen. It can show multiple pregnancies, possible handicaps and the sex of the child.

Inefficient handyman divorced

A woman whose handyman husband started many jobs in the house and garden, but seldom finished them, was granted a divorce in the High Court in London yesterday.

Mr Justice Ewbank said that Mr Paul White, aged 41, an engineer, a "moody, aggressive and difficult" man, had behaved in such a way that his wife Lucy, aged 40, could no longer be expected to go on living with him.

Her kitchen had been in disarray for years, he left tools around the house, in Lower Kingswood, Surrey, and the garden was full of builders materials and old cars.

School meal helpers win dismissal battle

School meal helpers dismissed by Kent County Council for refusing to accept less pay were unfairly dismissed, the Court of Appeal ruled yesterday.

They dismissed the council's appeal against an employment appeal tribunal ruling in April last year which supported the women.

Lord Justice Griffiths, sitting with Lord Justice Waller and Lord Justice Dillon, said there had been no error of law by the original Ashford industrial tribunal, which also found unfair dismissal, or by the appeal tribunal, and there was no reason for interfering with the decision.

The ruling was claimed as a great victory by the women and by National Union of Public Employees, which had supported them.

Kent council had claimed that in order to save the school meals service after government spending cuts it had to offer new contracts to the women.

It saved £706,000 a year by not paying a retainer during school holidays and by calculating holiday entitlement on the 39 weeks they worked instead of on a 52-week year.

The unions opposed the new contracts but 97 per cent of the women accepted. The 18 who refused were dismissed.

Lord Justice Griffiths found that the new contracts were a breach of a national agreement, which was "a very serious matter in the field of industrial relations."

He added that it was "hardly surprising that the proposal was not enthusiastically received by the unions as it would deprive their members of the benefits of the nationally negotiated terms of service."

Dearer juice

A litre of orange juice will go up by 6p to 7p from the beginning of next month to about 60p, the Food Manufacturer Federation said yesterday.

Countess to keep man's gifts

When Mr Norbert Mayer, a wealthy Austrian, met Mrs Elizabeth Pongracz, a Hungarian countess, it was love at first sight. His "infatuation" lasted for eight years as he lavished gifts and money on her.

He was 58 with a wife and four children when he met Mrs Pongracz, a divorcee, aged 52, in 1965. He gave up everything and bought her houses in Spain and London. They planned to marry.

But when love turned sour Mr Mayer, now 77, and living in Munich, West Germany, asked for his gifts back. Mrs Pongracz, now 71, and still living in the London home at

Albion Street, Bayswater, refused.

In the High Court in October, 1981, Judge Finlay ordered her to hand back "goods and chattels" worth £20,306 together with £1,000 interest after finding her guilty of "undue influence".

The decision was reversed in the Court of Appeal yesterday. Lord Justice Waller said that however "extravagant or foolish" Mr Mayer might have been, there was no evidence that Mrs Pongracz "forced, tricked or misled" him at any stage.

Lord Justice Dillon said there was no doubt that Mr Mayer knew what he was doing each time he made a gift. The gifts

arose because of his infatuation with Mrs Pongracz and his "own folly and imprudence". That did not amount to undue influence.

He had divorced his wife but they had remarried when his association with Mrs Pongracz ended, the judge said. He was devoted to Mrs Pongracz and when she offered to return his gifts he wrote to her that they were hers for the "unforgettable years of unutterable happiness" she had given him.

There was no basis for inferring any improper conduct by Mrs Pongracz, Lord Justice Griffiths agreed. They ordered Mr Mayer to pay the costs and refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Leeds police killing

'Give up' plea to second man

From Peter Davenport
Leeds

A senior detective leading the hunt for the gunman who shot dead Sergeant John Speed on Wednesday and wounded another officer made an appeal to the killer's accomplice yesterday.

Det Chief Supt John Conboy said the man had no involvement in the shooting. He urged him to think carefully about his legal position and surrender to help the police to catch the killer.

As 100 detectives, including many armed officers, continued their search, Mr Conboy said: "From the evidence we have obtained the second man doesn't appear to have taken any part in the shooting, either by prompting the gunman or really assisting him."

"I urge him to consider very carefully his legal position in this incident. It is quite apparent that he was with the first man and that they were acting together in what was undoubtedly going to be the theft of a car. But he does not appear to have been involved in the shooting of the two officers."

Mr Conboy would not be drawn on the question of possible charges the second man may face should he give himself up.

A memorial to Sergeant John Speed, will be erected in Leeds city centre at the place where he was killed. It will be similar to that for WPC Yvonne Fletcher, the London policewoman killed outside the Libyan Embassy in April. The mottled red granite stone, to be erected by the Police Memorial Trust, will bear the words: "Here fell Police Sergeant John Speed, October 31st, 1984".

Sgt Speed was killed by a single revolver shot in the chest as he went to tackle the gunman who had already badly wounded his colleague. Police Constable John Thorpe, aged 37, PC Thorpe had been investigating a complaint that two men were tampering with a car parked opposite Leeds Parish Church.

Sgt Speed, the father of two children, Richard, aged nine, and Catharine, aged 10, was shot dead on the day after his thirty-ninth birthday. His widow, Judith, spoke yesterday of the delayed birthday tea that the family had planned to give him on the day he died.

John worked the late shift on Tuesday, so we decided to have his birthday tea on Wednesday. We had a birthday cake and a

little gift of chocolates from the children for him.

"I had already given him a present and the children had drawn little pictures for him which they left on his pillow for him to see when he came home. They had both written 'Happy birthday, Daddy, for tomorrow'."

She was speaking at Millgarth police station in the centre of Leeds where her husband had been based.

She broke down several times as she recalled her last moments with her husband. "I saw John on Wednesday morning," she said.

"When he is on early turn he gets up at 5am and usually slips out of the house without me seeing him. But yesterday morning the alarm clock fell off the table and woke me up. He started scrambling around for it and we were laughing. I'm glad of that."

Mrs Speed, who married her husband 14 years ago, added that they had often discussed the dangers of his job. They were both in favour of capital punishment.

Of the gunman, Mrs Speed said: "I haven't even thought about him. He is so unimportant at the moment."

"The only message I could give him is to give himself up. Don't do to anyone else what you have done to me."



Mrs Judith Speed (left) in Leeds yesterday and her children, Richard, aged nine, and Catharine, aged 10.

'Hostile' oil companies keep women off rigs

By Patricia Clough

Discrimination against women is rampant in Britain's North Sea oil industry, and cannot be punished because rigs are outside British waters, the Equal Opportunities Commission reported yesterday.

Women geologists are barred from the rigs. Yet without the experience their chances of promotion are slim, according to a report by Professor Robert Moore and Mr Peter Wybrow, sociologists at Aberdeen University.

Lady Pratt, chairman of the commission, said it will probably draft an amendment to the Sex Discrimination Act so that it covers the continental shelf.

Professor Moore told a press conference that one of the excuses given by oil companies was: "Men are all animals

offshore and a woman would not be safe". He said: "I was very shocked at the deeply ingrained hostility against women."

Of about 22,000 people on British rigs, only 25, or 0.1 per cent, were women, he said. By comparison 12.3 per cent of the staff of Norwegian rigs are women. Norwegian companies found that as a result the rigs were tidier, the men kept themselves cleaner and the atmosphere was more "normal".

But British companies claimed they would have to clear fow-bank cabins to accommodate one woman. The commission says it has evidence that a new rig was deliberately modified to make it difficult to accommodate women.

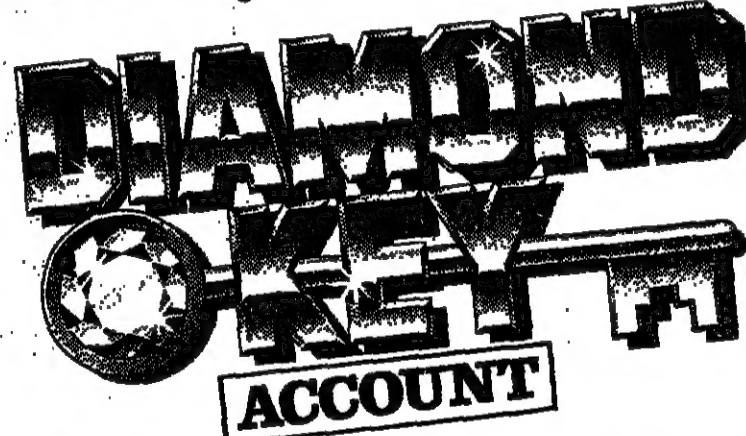
Summer house victory for Lord Ednam

Lord Ednam has won an appeal to have an octagonal summer house built at his home, Rowlandson Ground, near Coniston, Cumbria.

The Lake District special planning board had rejected the proposed structure, with a domed roof, saying it would be out of character in the Lake District landscape, but a Department of the Environment inspector said it would be "an interesting incident" in the landscape and a "pleasurable surprise" for passing walkers.

He believed it would "complement and embellish the landscape" and was well within the English tradition of estate improvement. "The countryside would be the poorer if it lacked such occasional eccentricities", he said.

Lots of other national building societies have extra interest accounts, but only the Yorkshire Building Society has...



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TB11/2

Killer was completely trusted

Premier rejected pleas to exclude Sikhs from her bodyguard

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

As more details were made public yesterday about the policemen who assassinated Mrs Indira Gandhi, it became clear that only two of her security men were involved and not three as at first reported.

A third constable who was wounded in the shooting by the rest of Mrs Gandhi's guards was reported to have been hit accidentally.

Sub-Inspector Beant Singh, aged 33, from a village near the Punjab capital, Chandigarh, and his accomplice, Constable Satwant Singh, aged 21, from Agira village, in Gurdaspur district which adjoins Pakistan, both managed to change their allocations of duty so as to be together on Wednesday morning.

Beant Singh, who was shot dead by loyal security men, was a member of the special force of Delhi police responsible for VIP security. He had worked on Mrs Gandhi's protection for four years from 1974, and returned again in 1980. He arranged with another sub-inspector to swap shifts so that he could work the day shift instead of the night shift on Wednesday.

Constable Satwant Singh, who was wounded by loyal guards, had only been in the guard at the Prime Minister's house, No 1 Safdarjung Road, for two months. He returned

from leave in his home village two days before the killing and complained of a stomach upset. He asked to be stationed at the wicket gate between the house and the offices in the next door house, No 1 Akbar Road, so as not to be too far from a lavatory.

Beant Singh is said to be related to an Indian diplomat, Mr Hariender Singh who was posted in Norway, and who asked for political asylum there after the Army assault on the Golden Temple of Amritsar.

Beant Singh was completely trusted by Mrs Gandhi. When asked why she allowed Sikhs among her security men after the Golden Temple seizure, she pointed him out to reporters. "You see him," she is reported

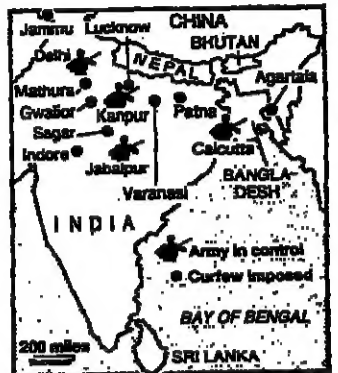
as saying. "What could I possibly fear from him?"

She was also urged by her advisers from the Home Ministry not to have Sikhs among her guards. She scoffed at the notion that there should be any discrimination on religious grounds at the top of the secular republic, and rated them for what she called an "outrageous suggestion."

DELHI: Police in Punjab arrested six relatives and two friends of one of Mrs Gandhi's two alleged assassins, the United News of India reported (AP and AFP report).

The agency said three brothers, two sisters and the father of Constable Satwant Singh, were arrested. It said police who went to Sub-Inspector Beant Singh's Delhi residence found the house locked. Neighbours told police that Beant Singh had sent his family to an unknown place five days before Mrs Gandhi's assassination.

Indian news reports said Mrs Gandhi's murder was cleverly planned by Beant Singh and Satwant Singh. They added that while Satwant Singh fired at Mrs Gandhi with a semi-automatic sub-machine-gun, Beant Singh used his .38-calibre revolver to shoot her.



Rioting: A crowd gathers in front of a burning house in Delhi's old quarter yesterday as a curfew was imposed on some areas.

The funeral

Many world leaders to attend

Delhi (Reuters) - Leaders who have so far confirmed that they will attend Mrs Gandhi's funeral in Delhi tomorrow include the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, and presidents and prime ministers from around the world.

An Indian government spokesman said that the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, would attend while Mr George Bush, the US Secretary of State, will represent the United States.

Among those representing international organizations, apart from Señor Pérez de Cuéllar, will be Sir Shridath Ramphal, Secretary General of the Commonwealth.

Officials said many leaders were expected from Third World countries, including President Nyerere of Tanzania. Mrs Gandhi was chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement. European figures will include both Princess Anne and Mrs Margaret Thatcher, President Mitterrand and the prime ministers of Italy, Portugal, Spain and Greece.

Among Asian representatives will be the prime minister of Japan, the president of Bangladesh and Mrs Imelda Marcos of the Philippines.

Message to Rajiv

Zia offers full support to improve relations

Islamabad (Reuters) President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan yesterday offered to cooperate with India's new Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in improving relations between the two countries.

In his second message since the assassination of Mrs Gandhi, General Zia extended Pakistan's sincere good wishes for the new leader's success.

"I would also like to assure you of the full support of the Government of Pakistan in efforts to build a relationship of trust and confidence between our two countries and create a secure and tranquil environment in our region."

Officials in Islamabad said the President had launched a "peace offensive" in the hope that India's new leader would be less hostile towards Pakistan than his mother.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since independence in 1947. Relations were strained this summer after Delhi accused Islamabad of aiding Sikh agitation.

After the assassination, General Zia telephoned Rajiv Gandhi and with several Cabinet ministers, expressed condolences to the Indian Ambassador.

Islamabad has not announced who will attend the funeral tomorrow, but Western diplomats said they expected

General Zia to head the delegation.

In an interview with the BBC, the Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, said: "We intend on our part to continue to try to convince our neighbours by words and indeed by deeds that doubts and apprehensions on their part are unfounded."

In the last weeks of her life, Mrs Gandhi had spoken frequently of the threat of war with Pakistan and Rajiv Gandhi said in February that he expected Pakistan to attack India within a year.

Balanced view: The Pakistani press, both under government control and outside it, prominently reported the assassination and maintained a balanced view in editorial comments on her role and contribution to relations with Pakistan.

While most newspapers avoided speculating about the murder, the right-wing *Jasarat* said an international conspiracy could not be ruled out.

The Soviet Ambassador in Islamabad was quoted as saying "Imperialists" were to blame for the plot against Mrs Gandhi. He reportedly said she became a victim because she pursued sovereign, independent and non-aligned policies.

Gandhi, whose brand of non-alignment had a distinct tilt towards Moscow.

Yesterday Tass said the "black army of the American knights of the cloak and dagger" meaning the CIA - had long used political assassination against Third World leaders, from Patrice Lumumba in the Congo to Maurice Bishop in Grenada.



Sikh taxi set alight in New Delhi

Peter Ustinov, eyewitness

'The birds and squirrels didn't even notice'

New York (AP) - Mr. Peter Ustinov, the British actor, who was standing less than a hundred yards from where Mrs Gandhi was assassinated, yesterday described the killing as "very quick" with "no screams, nothing shrill".

The assassination "seemed quite unreal in a very beautiful garden, especially when one has seen the film of Gandhi, in which he also met his end surrounded by trees and flowers and lawns," Mr Ustinov said on the American NBC television programme *Today Show*.

Mr Ustinov, aged 63, was to interview Mrs Gandhi on film on Wednesday morning minutes before she was killed. "We'd been with her for two days as

she went around the provinces, and we'd shot quite a bit of film on her," he said. "At nine o'clock we were ready in the open air under a tree in the shade, where she liked it. At seven or eight minutes past nine, we heard three distinct reports, which the Indians around us said was probably firecrackers."

"But that was followed by blasts from an automatic weapon of some sort - and that clearly wasn't firecrackers - then people rushing around the garden, including soldiers. It was all very silent. Then suddenly two more bursts of machine gun fire, which was certainly the assassins being shot by the commandos."

Mark of respect

EEC calls off its conference

Brussels (AP) - European Community foreign ministers have cancelled an informal meeting due for this weekend in Ireland to allow some members to attend the funerals of Mr Gandhi.

The spokesman for the Irish mission to the European Community here said an alternate date for the meeting has not been set.

The ten foreign ministers were expected to try to solve some of their remaining differences over the terms to be offered to Spain and Portugal for EEC membership.

Only one formal foreign affairs session is due before the Community meets the Spanish and Portuguese at the end of this month.

Community officials hope that formal talks over the terms of entry can be completed by the end of the year in order to give national parliaments time to approve an accession agreement by January 1, 1986.

ROME: The Pope prayed for victims of violence in India before an All Saint's Day audience of 7,000 pilgrims in St Peter's Square. He said he felt oppressed by the thought of "so much human blood spilled, so much suffering..."

Times man on the road

Brave Sikh driver runs gauntlet of Hindu mobs

From Kenneth Fleet, Executive Editor Finance and Industry, Delhi

A Sikh driver may have saved my life yesterday with bravery that could have cost his own.

In India for just two days, and for the first time, I decided to spend the day at Agra, the site of the Taj Mahal, four hours drive from Delhi.

With a fateful premonition of Mrs Gandhi's death my guide, in the faintly musical and barely comprehensible English of Indian Guides, said: "Prime Minister will have own tomb, just like Queen Mahal only not so beautiful".

As I left the Taj Mahal about noon my Sikh Driver, the dark-eyed, turbaned, bearded epitome of most Englishmen's Indian, hailed me with "Mrs Gandhi in firing, seriously ill, not dead".

I naively thought at first that Mrs Gandhi had been taken from a burning building, but as we drove through the teeming alleys of Agra the dreadful truth dawned. "Shops closing, Prime Minister dead", my driver observed.

For nearly three hours the Agra-Delhi road was dull and hot. After about 50 miles we struck the first road block. Police and soldiers were adamant: none of the scores of vehicles or their hundreds of occupants would be allowed to proceed to Delhi.

Pleading and a British passport finally provoked only anger. We retreated seven miles to the Dabchick tourist

complex, where the crush was beginning to match the throng at the road block. The one telephone in the manager's office had already collapsed to an inaudible whisper.

By now it was dark, and impenetrably alien for foreigners like myself. A dozen of us clustered around the manager's small radio to hear the six o'clock news and officially for the first time that Mrs Gandhi was dead. The Indians, as they had seemed since rumours of assassination had reached Agra hours before, were outwardly calm, almost unconcerned.

We decided to make another attempt to reach Delhi. We were again turned back at the roadblock, this time with impatient hostility but also with concern for our safety.

There was rioting, looting, stone throwing and car-burning nearer to Delhi and in the city. The wrath of the Hindu mob was falling on the "guilty" Sikhs. The Sikhs, I was told, were celebrating the Prime Minister's death.

At about eight o'clock word was sent to Dabchick that the road was clear. So it was, until about 12 miles from Delhi.

At the second roadblock you could easily sense the tensions in the milling crowd and smell the nearness of the mob. Faces drank with excitement pressed against the car windows.

Though the hatred was directed at my driver. He did

not hesitate. He got out and spread his arms protectively along the car door. Only yards away, other Sikh drivers were being dragged from coaches and savagely beaten with iron staves.

The evening was ebbing away in noise and confusion when he suddenly decided to drive to Delhi "by back way". We had driven about a mile before he said "big trouble". As he accelerated I was suddenly aware of men leaping from the roadside to attack the car with long, heavy sticks.

He swung the car round and headed back to the roadblock. The body of the car was struck several times but, fortunately, not the windshield.

It was clear that I would not reach Delhi by road with a Sikh driver and two other fugitive Sikhs now sharing the front seat. We began a long search for a cooperative Hindu driver, in vain. My resourceful ally, for allies we had become, had another idea: "train into Delhi".

In the filthy, heavily-shuttered compartment I sat with two Sikhs (my brave driver had said goodbye at the station) amid a sea of staring Hindu faces. I sensed that my foreignness might have given them a little protection. Anyway we survived the journey, they to disappear in Delhi's early hours, to bribe a three-wheel taxi driver to take me seven miles to my hotel.

Moscow's anger grows

Role of the CIA condemned

The Soviet Union yesterday almost directly accused the Central Intelligence Agency of being behind the murder of Mrs Gandhi, despite Washington's rejection of the charge as "outrageous and disgusting".

Pravda said the United States had deliberately encouraged Sikh separatists and was behind several "bloody incidents" perpetrated by Sikhs. This was one link in a chain of

conspiracy aimed at destabilising governments not to America's liking.

Diplomats said that, far from joining the US in superpower "damage limitation" to defuse a regional crisis, the Kremlin seemed intent on worsening relations with Washington.

Sources said the Soviet leadership might genuinely believe that the CIA had arranged the death of Mrs

Gandhi, whose brand of non-alignment had a distinct tilt towards Moscow.

Yesterday Tass said the "black army of the American knights of the cloak and dagger" meaning the CIA - had long used political assassination against Third World leaders, from Patrice Lumumba in the Congo to Maurice Bishop in Grenada.

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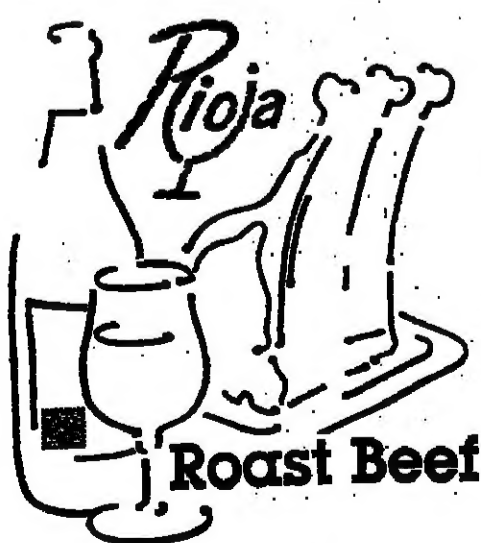
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Fears grow of risks to British planes in Ethiopian famine areas

How British and German military aircraft will be used inside Ethiopia is still unclear amid growing concern that flights into the war-torn and drought-stricken North may be unsafe.

According to military officials, the Ethiopian Ministry of Defence refused to allow its planes to land in the town of Makelle only 16 days ago. Makelle, the capital of Tigray province, has an estimated 50,000 famine victims in need of food distribution. But, because of surrounding rebel activity, the landings were considered too dangerous for the national air force.

The countryside around the city is reportedly controlled by rebels of the Tigray People's Liberation Front. Because of this, Government food aid can reach the town only by time-consuming and costly military convoy. When the British and German Governments first put forth the idea of airflights, attention focused on this area.

Earlier this week representatives from the German and British air forces arrived in Addis Ababa. Since then meetings have been held with Ethiopian officials to reach a final agreement on how the planes will be used. Now it appears that two points must be decided. The first is the basic authorization from the Ethiopian Government. The second concerns the provision of

From Carol Berger, Addis Ababa technical and logistical support and assurances that aircraft will not be sent into dangerous areas.

The capture of Lalibela town in Wollo province last month by the Tigray People's Liberation Front rebels has marked a shift from traditional rebel attacks in the area. Unlike earlier actions, the rebels remained in the town for almost two weeks. Normally they would have left within a few days.

One military official told me that the risk being taken by the planned airflights was too high when compared with the relatively small quantities of food which could be transported by air. Each plane can handle only 20 metric tonnes weight of food. Most lorries being used can carry 22 tons each at a much lower cost.

Enthusiasm may also have been dampened by the growing realization that the nation's lorry fleets have not been fully used for famine relief. At the main port of Assab, thousands of tons of food have remained undistributed for months at a time. Until recently, the shipment of food was only a third place priority - after cement and fertilizer.

Squadron leader John Morley, at the RAF, who has been in Addis Ababa since Tuesday. The Times that the ultimate decision on where aircraft will land will be made by the RAF

detachment commander on his arrival in Addis Ababa.

The British aidflights plan includes the collection of grain from Assab for delivery to Makelle, Axum and possibly Alimata in Wollo province. The landing strip at Alimata is now being lengthened and its surface hardened to accommodate heavier planes.

Squadron leader Morley said the RAF had asked for thorough briefings from the Ethiopians on security conditions in the north. He said that the RAF planes would not land in areas considered to be insecure.

● ADDIS ABABA: A British Airways Tristar jumbo jet, carrying 30 tons of food and relief supplies for famine victims arrived here yesterday (AP reports).

The flight was the first of what relief officials hope will become a large-scale airlift of food and supplies.

● A UNICEF officer who has just spent two months in Ethiopia and Chad said yesterday that massive amounts of emergency relief aid would not solve long-term famine problems and said famine conditions in Chad were fast deteriorating.

Miss Male Ayoub told a London press conference that the immediate emergency would be followed by a long-term need to build and improve local irrigation schemes. Letters, page 13

Britons seek release in Zimbabwe

From Jan Raath Harare

Two British subjects, detained here since late 1981 on allegations that they spied for the South African Government, petitioned the High Court yesterday for their release.

Mr Philip Harlebury, aged 32, and Mr Colin Evans, aged 29, are challenging the right of Zimbabwe's detention review tribunal and that of the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Muboko, to continue holding them, in the light of the allegedly slim evidence against them.

They were both officers of Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organisation, alleged to have been part of a South African spy ring that bombed the headquarters of the ruling Zanu (PF) Party in 1981, and assassinated Mr Joe Qgabi.

They were acquitted on the grounds of insufficient evidence, they were issued with fresh detention orders immediately after the verdict.

Nicaragua party refused leave to quit election

From Alan Tomlinson, Managua

Electoral authorities in Nicaragua have refused to accept the late withdrawal of the main opposition party from Sunday's poll.

The Independent Liberal Party, one of six groups contesting with the ruling Sandinistas, the elections for president, vice-president and a 9-seat national assembly, on Tuesday, carried out its threat to pull out of the race.

At an extraordinary meeting, the Supreme Electoral Council ruled that there was no provision under the law for parties to withdraw once registered; and that, in any case, it was too late for the party to do so, since ballot sheets had already been printed and distributed, with the Liberals on the list of candidates.

The council president, Señor Mariano Fiallos, received the official letter of withdrawal from presidential contender Virgil Godoy. But, he said, he had also received numerous requests from Liberal candidates for the party to remain in the ballot.

Señor Fiallos said any Liberal votes cast on Sunday would be regarded as valid. Candidates not wishing to take up assembly seats must withdraw personally. Any notes they received would be credited to other Liberal candidates.

Britain has decided against sending official observers to the elections, on grounds that no serious, fully-independent contest now looks possible. The decision leaves The Netherlands as the only EEC country likely to send observers.

In another development, the Nicaraguan Defence Ministry said a series of loud bangs in various parts of the country, and thought to have been bombs, were sonic booms caused by an American spy plane.

The ministry said on SR71, known as The Blackbird, violated Nicaraguan airspace on Wednesday on a dual mission of spying and sowing panic before the elections.

Solidarity - Church rift over priest's burial

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

A politically charged dispute has broken out here over where and how Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the murdered priest who is already being hailed as a Solidarity martyr, should be buried.

The funeral, scheduled for tomorrow, is likely to produce one of the largest crowds seen since martial law was imposed and will effectively be a show of support for Solidarity, the banned union once championed by Father Popieluszko.

Parishioners and Solidarity leaders would like a funeral Mass to be said in Warsaw Cathedral in the old town district to be followed by a massive procession through the

capital to Saint Stanislaw Kostka church, where the priest would be buried. The church would thus become a kind of political shrine to Solidarity.

As one of the dead priest's former colleagues, Father Tofil Bogucki, said yesterday: "We must not let the murderers destroy his work and influence as they destroyed his body." "The Solidarity organizer, Mr Seweryn Jaworski, said a letter of appeal to the Primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, had collected several thousand signatures in a last-minute attempt to have the priest buried in his church.

The Polish authorities have, however, agreed with the church hierarchy that the

priest should be buried in the Powazki cemetery, the country's principal graveyard.

The idea of the Church is that the priest will lie in state in his church from this afternoon, that the Primate will hold a funeral Mass tomorrow morning and that the procession will then move to the cemetery. For the authorities, this has the advantage of keeping the huge display of support for Solidarity out of the centre of the capital and shifting the focus of discontent away from the Church of Saint Stanislaw Kostka.

Solidarity advisers were involved late yesterday in discussions with the Church about the possibility of a last-minute change of venue and about the results of the post mortem examination. Neither the authorities nor the Church are keen to release the results, completed on Wednesday, lest they inflame the crowds.

Sources said they showed that the priest had been killed by a bullet before being dropped into a reservoir. There was, however, no official confirmation of this, which, if true, will certainly reawaken the sense of shock in Poland that is only now being gradually absorbed.

The priest was kidnapped on October 19 by three secret policemen who have variously confessed to murdering him or endangering his life. Leading article, page 13

Officer adds to Madrid's enclave problem

From Richard Wigg Madrid

Remarks by a top Spanish general, dismissed on Wednesday for criticizing defence planning, highlighted the problems of the country's two North African enclaves, and embarrassed the Government.

Lieutenant-General Manuel Alvarez Zalta, who was Captain-General of the Saragossa region, said Ceuta and Melilla could not be defended by the garrisons and that a pre-emptive strike against Morocco would have to come from the Spanish mainland.

While editorials yesterday welcomed the Government's assertion of civilian authority over the armed forces, defence experts were unable to rebut General Alvarez's views.

Outcry fails to stop Cheysson visit

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Despite a continuing outcry in France over the visit, M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, attended the ceremonies in Algiers yesterday marking the thirtieth anniversary of the outbreak of the Algerian "revolution" against the French.

It is one of the most controversial visits by the Foreign Minister since the Sandinistas, the elections for which have been denounced by a number of Opposition politicians and representatives of the *Fleets Noirs*, the Algerian-born Frenchmen now living in France, who see it as a shameful insult to the memory of the tens of thousands of Frenchmen who died during the Algerian war.

Flags were flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning in many towns in the south of France, where there is a substantial

Pieds Noirs population, while the extreme-right National Front organized several demonstrations in protest against what it described as "this odious and revolting act".

Socialists have by and large given public support to the visit, accepting the Government's argument that more than 20 years after the end of the war, the time had come for this mark of reconciliation with Algeria. The French Communists have also expressed their wholehearted approval.

But the division of opinion is not totally along party lines. The right-wing national newspaper, *Le Quotidien*, has endorsed the visit, for example, while two Socialist MPs have called for its cancellation. The Socialist-controlled Vaucluse regional council has described it

as "inopportune", saying that it was not "indispensable to adopt an attitude of humility in order to achieve Franco-Algerian reconciliation".

There is a strong suspicion that some of the passions stirred up by this visit are politically inspired. Although this is the first time that a high-ranking French minister has attended the November 1 celebrations in Algeria, it is not the first time that the French Government has given those celebrations its official sanction.

In 1979, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the uprising, President Giscard d'Estaing sent the Secretary-General of the Foreign Ministry to represent France in Algiers, while six French ministers attended a reception at the Algerian Embassy in Paris.

Laos tries to reopen talks on Thai border

Bangkok - Laos has called on Thailand to resume attempts to settle a long-standing border dispute between the two countries (Neil Kelly writes). It suggests that talks should begin in Bangkok as soon as possible.

Two series of discussions on the border problem, which concerns three hamlets and 20 square kilometres of territory claimed by both countries, ended in failure more than two months ago.

Final choice

Raleigh, North Carolina (Reuters) - Velma Barfield has chosen a pair of grandmotherly cotton pink pyjamas to wear to her execution for murder today. The plump, 52-year-old convicted poisoner is due to become the first woman to be executed in the United States in 22 years.

CND in China

Peking (Reuters) - A delegation from Britain's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament led by Miss Joan Ruddock arrived in Peking for talks with Chinese defence and foreign ministry officials.

DeLorean sues

Somerville, New Jersey (AP) - Mr John DeLorean has countered his wife Cristina for divorce, contending that the federal government's efforts to prosecute him on cocaine distribution charges "poisoned" his marriage.

Fo to go



Dario Fo, the Italian playwright, who will attend the opening of the play, *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* on Broadway after US authorities lifted a ban on his entry.

Blyth spirit

Port Stanley (AP) - Yachtsman Chay Blyth has called in here saying he is six days ahead of his schedule to beat a 133-year-old US record for the quickest voyage between New York and San Francisco around Cape Horn.

House of Lords

Law Report November 2 1984

Queen's Bench Division

Council cannot use planning law to protect tenancy

Westminster City Council v British Waterways Board. Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Wilberforce, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill and Lord Bridge of Harwich.

[Speeches read October 31]

Westminster City Council were not entitled to protect their occupation under a lease of premises used as a cleansing depot by refusing planning permission to the landlords.

The House of Lords so held in upholding the decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Slade) on June 27, 1983 (*The Times*, July 12, 1983) to allow an appeal by the British Waterways Board against a decision of Mr Justice Walton on December 21, 1982, that the board had no grounds under section 30(1)(a) of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 to oppose the granting of a new tenancy of Nos 33, 35 and 37, North Wharf, Paddington to Westminster City Council.

Mr Barry Green, QC and Mr Christopher Lochhart-Mummary for the council; Mr Kenneth Bagwell, QC and Mr Kirk Reynolds for the board.

LORD BRIDGE said that the city council had made it clear that they would refuse an application by the board for change of use of the premises for their intended use, a marina.

The test to be applied, as put in *Gregory v Cyril Lord Ltd* (1963) 1 WLR 411, was an objective test as to whether the landlords on the evidence had established a reasonable prospect that planning permission would be obtained.

Their prospect of success was to be assessed on the footing that they, not the tenants, were in possession of the premises.

The city council had argued that the established existing use of the premises was as a street cleansing depot, that they had no existing site, and that the desirability of preserving their existing use, which served a vital public purpose, would be a sufficiently weighty planning objection to prevent the board proving a reasonable prospect of obtaining planning permission.

It was difficult to see how that argument could be sustained once it

was appreciated that the board's prospects of success in a notional planning appeal were to be considered on the assumption that they were in possession.

The city council had given no indication that they intended to acquire the premises compulsorily for a necessary public purpose. The preservation of an existing public use (which was temporarily suspended) could not afford a ground to refuse permission for an otherwise acceptable change of use, unless it could be shown that the refusal could reasonably be expected to lead to a resumption of the suspended use.

That the desirability of preserving an existing use could by itself afford a valid planning reason for refusing change of use was accepted. It was supported by *Clyde & Co v Secretary of State for the Environment* (1977) 1 WLR 926.

However, that case, concerned with a coast between two of the broadest classes of use, residential versus office use, was far removed from the character of the present dispute.

To determine the scope for planning purposes, of an existing use of land established by a *de facto* user for a sufficient period to put it beyond the reach of enforcement proceedings, the court was to be guided by the principle that a use commenced pursuant to an express grant of planning permission) it was necessary to ask two questions primarily of fact.

What was the precise character of the established use; and what was the range of uses to which the land was capable of being put without involving a material change?

In the present case, use as a street cleansing depot was only one of a substantial range of uses which could properly be carried out without involving a material change of use.

The board had established a reasonable prospect of success in a notional planning permission. The objection to their proposed use, in protecting the occupation of the premises for use as a street cleansing depot, was not a legitimate ground of objection.

Second, on the assumption that the board were in possession of the premises, refusal of planning permission would leave the premises available for a range of uses not requiring planning permission, and there was no evidence to establish the probability that, in those circumstances, the city council would be able to resume possession of the premises for use as a street cleansing depot.

LORD SCARMAN, Lord Wilberforce, Lord Roskill and Lord Bridge agreed.

Solicitors: Mr Terence F. Neville, Mr J. M. McKean.

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When due notice is not required

Ferrum GmbH v Owners of the Mozart. Before Mr Justice Mustill.

[Judgment delivered October 29]

Where a charterparty provided for deductions of time from the laytime, in respect of stoppages due to any cause beyond the control of the charterers, but provided that no deduction of time should be allowed unless due notice was given at the time to the master or owners of the ship, it was a condition precedent to the deduction of time that due notice be given of the stoppage, but not of the intention to claim a deduction.

If the master already knew of all the matters of which notice was required, the charterers' failure to give notice would not deprive them of their right to claim deductions as "due notice" was such notice as was appropriate in the circumstances, and the law never compelled the doing of that which was useless and unnecessary.

Mr Justice Mustill so held in a reserved judgment in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division, allowing an appeal by Ferrum GmbH, charterers of the vessel Mozart, under a charterparty based on the printed form of the Americanized *Welsh Coal Charter*. From an award of arbitrators who had held that they were not entitled to deduct time in respect of a stoppage caused by the negligence of shippers, but that their failure to give any notice to the master, either as to the stoppage or to their intention to claim a deduction, would not have debarred them from claiming such a deduction if it had been available. The owners' cross-appeal, claiming that the failure to give notice was fatal to the charterers' claim was dismissed.

Clause 3 of the charterparty provided, *inter alia*: "Any time lost through... any cause whatsoever beyond the control of the charterer affecting... loading... not to be computed as part of the loading time... No deduction of time shall be allowed for stoppage, unless due notice be given at the time to the master or owner."

Mr Jonathan Gaiman for the charterers; Mr Julian Flaux for the owners.

MR JUSTICE MUSTILL said that the arbitrators had decided that clause 3 could not be read literally because that would render other specific words in the clause redundant, would have an unacceptable wide operation because it would apply whenever the charter was not the shipper, the exception was understood in the market as having a narrower connotation, laytime *prima facie* ran continuously against the charterer; and the

clause should be construed against the party seeking to benefit from it.

His Lordship did not accept those arguments. Arguments for redundancy were of little weight in construing commercial agreements, and in any event it was a perfectly sensible drafting technique to set out specific perils and then follow with a "sweeping-up" provision.

The exception was expressed widely and should be construed widely, and there was no viable, narrower, alternative construction. The stoppage had been beyond the control of the charterers, literally construed, and so they were entitled to deduct the laytime arising therefrom.

The purpose of including the due notice provisions must have been to ensure that disputes were minimized by ensuring that the owners were given the opportunity at the time to investigate stoppages upon which claims for deductions were to be based.

In order to serve that purpose, the master or owners needed to know that there had been a stoppage and what the reason for the stoppage was alleged to be. Having received that information, it would be assumed that the charterers would rely on it as a reason for not paying demurrage and the charterers were not obliged to state that they were proposing so to do.

In this case, the master knew that the ship was stopped and that the cause was outside the charterers' control. That being so, the charterers had argued that due notice would be no notice, since there could be nothing due in communication which told the master nothing which he did not already know.

In his Lordship's judgment, the due notice requirement could not sensibly be understood as requiring the charterers to notify the master of something which, by combining his own observation with information conveyed to him by people on the spot, he knew perfectly well already.

In any event, even if that were wrong in law, the absence of the notice would not, following the decision of the Court of Appeal in *Barrett Brothers (Taxis) Ltd v Davies* ([1966] 1 WLR 1334), preclude the charterers from claiming the deductions.

In that case, which concerned a due notice provision in a contract of motor insurance, it was said to be futile to require the insured to give information which the insurer already had and that the law would not require a person to do that which was useless and unnecessary.

That case was directly in point, binding on the court, and ought to be applied. Any other outcome would have been contrary to the commercial sense of the situation.

Solicitors: Richards Butler & Co, Inc & Co.

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THE ARTS

Opera

Imenoe
Sadler's Wells

Down (in the Arts Council's list of future cuts) but by no means out, the Handel Opera Society is back for another short season at Sadler's Wells, with one of the most enterprising of its recent revivals.

Enterprising both in choice and realization: *Imenoe* has not been seen here on stage since 1740, except for a single revival by Anthony Lewis and Brian Trowell in Birmingham in 1961, and then apparently it was done in an edition which mixed Handel's first thoughts of 1738, his 1740 completion, and his later concert version of 1742. And in realization, this is one of the more successful attempts at a stylish, imaginative use of gestures and rhetorical devices which Handel might have recognized.

And then I noticed (amid the encircling gloom) this is a somewhat dark production, its tone set by candelabra lit during the overture which are whisked away, never to return) the producer's note of thanks in the programme "to Belinda Quirey and Ian Caddy for their advice with baroque theatre practice".

The gestures matched the music and, though inevitably some singers were more at home with them than others, they gave a coherent, unparaphrased sense of convention to the action.

This acting, and Adele Angard's simple and effective sets, provided an apt frame for some excellent music. *Imenoe* is Handel's penultimate original opera: the 1742 performances preceded *Messiah* by a month, and there are some echoes of "The people that walked" and of "Why do the nations" in the magnificent storm aria for Tirinto. Indeed Tirinto has all the deepest music, including a wonderful aria in Act One that recalls Julius Caesar's aria with horn, and Penelope Walker sang it with fine strength and a direct, firmly moulded tone.

Tirinto, by the way, loves Rosmene, but so does Imenoe, though he is loved by Clomiri. Much of the action revolves around Rosmene's choice; there is a most affecting trio for the three lovers, and the choice takes place in a denouement involving assumed madness which is pretty melodramatic.

Marilyn Hill Smith, a touch too fiercely resonant for my taste, but brilliantly confident, did this splendid recitative scene with vigour. Richard Jackson, as Imenoe, cultivated a seraphic gleam which swept all before him, and he had the look of a winner from the start. Neil Jansen's Argenio was clouder, but Rebecca Caine's Clomiri was bright, pert - a newcomer to watch.

Charles Farcombe conducted with his habitual, instinctive feeling for the right tempo, and his orchestra was above par.

Nicholas Kenyon

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Moscow comes to life with a human face

Private Life (15)
Phoenix, East Finchley

Strikebound (PG)
Screen-on-the-Green

Tightrope (18)
Warner,
Leicester Square

The career of Yuli Raizman, commemorated in last month's retrospective at the National Film Theatre, is one of the most phenomenal in the story of cinema. It now spans seven decades.

Born in 1903, Raizman began as assistant to Yakov Protazanov, who had been active in films since long before the Russian Revolution. He worked as assistant on Protazanov's *The Forty-First* (1926), famous as the first Soviet film to view a White Russian character in sympathetic terms. The importance of human values was to remain the special distinction of Raizman's own work.

His virtuoso debut as director, with the Expressionist *Penal Servitude*, was in 1928, the year that also saw the release of Eisenstein's *October*. Dovzhenko's *Zvenigora* and Pudovkin's *Storm Over Asia*. Having been a participant witness, therefore, to the birth of the Soviet cinema, the industrious Raizman this year completed his latest film, which closed the NFT season, *A Time of Wishes* is the portrait of another, younger survivor, a woman who has grown up learning the compromises demanded by a society that was shaped by the Second World War.

Raizman's merits have always been an unassuming excellence and his singular sensitivity to character. Perhaps because he has never been one of the major "showpiece" directors, his work has rarely betrayed signs of compromise to political moods (though the NFT season discreetly omitted his films of the cold war years, *The Train Goes East* and *A Cossack's Dream*).

Raizman's 1960 film *Can This Be Love?* which I reviewed a couple of weeks ago, is perhaps the best example of his insistence - not common in Soviet cinema - on the individual's private rights within society. The concern is again apparent in his fine film of 1962, *Private Life*, which was

originally reviewed from the Venice Festival of that year, and opens this week for a run at the Phoenix, East Finchley.

It is the portrait of a high-ranking executive (an extraordinary performance by Mikhail Ulyanov, a stage-trained actor with the presence of an Olivier) who one day finds himself decreed redundant. For the first time he has to face life without the mask and trappings of rank which his job till now has given him. He must learn to take buses, to cross the road as a humble pedestrian, and to eat in the same self-service restaurants as the ordinary people who used to be at his bidding to hire and fire.

At home he is forced to recognize how isolated he has become from the lives of his family, so that he has now painfully to reconstruct relationships with his daughter, sons and grandchildren. Even his mother and wife have become strangers in the years he has lived as an official rather than as a man.

This pattern of the trauma that forces a man to take stock of his life is fairly familiar in literature and drama. What gives it distinction here is Raizman's singular observation of people's behaviour and of the detail of everyday life. This is a messier and more human Moscow than we are accustomed to see on the screen - with its share of nepotism and rat-racing, mad people, quarrelling passengers on overcrowded buses, under-the-counter illicit liquor, anxiety, hope, quarrels, divorce, death and disappointment.

Raizman is one of the oldest working film directors in the world; and Richard Lowenstein, who was 23 when he embarked on *Strikebound*, must be about the youngest. His film is an ambitious reconstruction of the events surrounding a coal strike in Clippens, Victoria, in the depressed 1930s, which led to the formation of one of Australia's first communist unions.

The film is something of a family affair: the screenplay is based on an unpublished book, *Dead Men Don't Dig Coal*, by the writer-director's mother, the oral historian Wendy Lowenstein. Richard Lowenstein's first film, *Evictions*, about Melbourne's depression years, was also based on her research. The documentary basis of the story is attested by the appearance, as prologue and epilogue, of Wattie and Agnes Doig, the real-life originals of the leading characters in the story.

Lowenstein is fearfully

ambitious. Despite his limited budget (the film was shot on super 16mm and blown up to 35mm) he has recreated the period detail with exceptional fidelity. Since today there is practically no underground mining in Australia, a substantial part of the budget went on reopening and draining an abandoned mine. The effort paid off: the scenes underground - filmed with virtuosity by the young cinematographer Andrew DeGroot - have a claustrophobic reality.

The nostalgia of the film is only for heroism: there are no romantic illusions in Lowenstein's picture of the place and time and poverty and the real issues in the dispute. Sometimes the writing is awkward and schematic, but the faults are readily offset by the sincerity of the performances and the director's own transmitted enthusiasm and belief. Similarities to current events in Britain are only coincidental; though the address to the miners by a Labour MP has a familiar ring to it.

Tightrope is instantly alienating unless you have a strong penchant for the pathological details of kinky sex crimes, which figure disagreeably large in the story. This is a pity, because it is an interesting debut for Richard Tuggle as writer-director, and provides one of the challenging, unheroic roles that have made Clint Eastwood's acting career something out of the ordinary.

Here he plays a conscientious cop in the homicide division, on the trail of a killer whose victims are all young prostitutes working in the New Orleans French Quarter. The normal daylight side of the cop's life is a broken marriage, two daughters to whom he is devoted and an affair with a tough rape centre director (Genevieve Bujold); but as his investigations continue he comes to recognize an uncomfortable identity between his secret sexual pendants and those of his quarry.

When the quarry also tumbles to this, it almost leads to the cop's downfall; but love and the last-act confrontation on the railway tracks (a passing express renders the villain armless) win through. Tuggle's writing is crisp (he scripted *Escape from Alcatraz*); but his direction, abetted by Bruce Surtees' broody camera work, tends to be showy; the obligatory chase through a cemetery hardly needs the embellishment of full *King Lear* thunderstorm effects.

David Robinson

Theatre

One family's life in pieces

Today
The Other Place,
Stratford-upon-Avon

Robert Holman is a playwright with a strong sense of history and an acute understanding that its great turning points become visible only in retrospect.

A Holman play is like an old photograph album: showing disconnected present-tense events in the lives of small people getting on with their daily routines, unaware of how they will appear to posterity.

The programme for *Today* lists the salient political events of 1936 alongside a chunk from Auden's *Spain*, while the piece itself opens with the sight of an anxious father discussing his daughter's injury with a woman doctor whom he embraces in mid-prognosis. Enter a hiker who breaks up their clinch by asking the way to Whitby.

From this beginning, even with past experience of this author, you expect to witness an action that gradually absorbs these private lives into historical perspective. And in fact the action does move on to Spain and draws a scattered group of figures together in the International Brigade.

The problem for the audience is to work out what they are all doing there. Mr Holman evidently has a great distaste for rhetoric, or crediting his characters with any statement outside their predominantly Yorkshire sensibilities.



Victor (Roger Allam) takes stock of a mixed-up career

So far as the father, Victor, is concerned, you are left to assume that he has deserted his wife for the woman doctor, and it is a complete surprise to find him hanging about a Spanish railway station along with a German male prostitute and the Whitby hiker's brother (played by the same actor, to add to the confusion) and still guarding his anti-Fascist views as closely as ever.

Before this unlooked-for development, the action has performed a U-turn back to 1920, so as to establish Victor's Cambridge friendship with a loquacious Old Etonian who finally dies, unnoticed, in the next bed of a Barcelona hospital.

Integrity of Mr Holman's inflexible kind, however, prevents the articulation of any such pattern in the play; and you are left with a succession of fragmented scenes, each perfectly coherent in itself, that proceed with all the inconsequence of real life.

They do tell a story, of a kind, that finally leads Victor back to his starting point. But it is a story consisting of one damn thing after another which does not amount to a plot.

The pleasures of Bill Alexander's production lie exclusively in its individual scenes: such as the defiant encounter between a poacher and village policeman, a bicyclist meeting between Victor's father (George Rastick) and his little sister (Amanda Root) who twists the old man round her little finger; and Victor's hospital courtship of a nursing nun by dictating music to her.

From Roger Allam's Victor to David Whitaker's monosyllabic hiker, the parts are played with total authenticity of idiom, costume, and emotional reserve, but without ever taking the plunge that would release them into dramatic history.

Irving Wardle

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Nov 24 at 7.30pm; Nov 27 at 8.00pm

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Nov 23, 28, 30; Dec 8 at 7.30pm
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Design for The Nutcracker by Julia Trevelyan Oman

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Modest Mussorgsky
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Nov 2, 7, 12, 15, 19 at 6.30pm
Nov 10 at 7.00pm
Die Fledermaus
Johann Strauss
Conductor: Julius Röntsch
Cast includes: Thomas Allen, Barbara Daniels, Dennis O'Neill, Hans Schwarz, Russell Soyley
Dec 15, 18, 22, 31 (sold out)
Jan 3 at 7.00pm; Dec 26 at 1.30pm
*Please note changes of cast and conductor.

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Concert
ECO/Susskind
Festival Hall

Very little was allowed to disturb the benign major-key geniality of the English Chamber Orchestra's all-Mozart programme. Peter Susskind's conducting kept it moving along smoothly in a generalized kind of way, but even the D minor opening of the overture to *Don Giovanni* smouldered rather than threatened, as if lit on a slow-burning fuse which, when it reached the allegro, did not so much ignite the rest as agitate it in a leisurely way.

After an account of *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*, which was like the musical equivalent of copper-plate handwriting, bereft of expressive indulgence or false sentiment, but equally lacking warmth of character, I hoped the sight of Cristina Ortiz bounding brightly up the steps to the platform heralded a change. She beset herself to the major Piano Concerto (K467) with every indication of passionate concern, emphasizing the modulations to minor keys as she reached them.

By this means she was able to turn early stealth into something like urgency, in spite of a continuing blandness of orchestral support. The slow movement had a gentle rhythm and quiet serenity of muted strength that benefited its dreamlike quality, but instead of the woodwind bringing added poignancy in the minor-key passages, they were altogether too prominent in the orchestral texture, overshadowing the keyboard.

From G major to C major to E flat major, and the Symphony No 39 gathered to itself a swooning waltz-like momentum after the solemn introduction, so that romantic feeling gained ascendancy over classical line, an effect even compounded by the music-box rhythm of the minuet movement.

The instrumental balance was better, poised, but the alterations from loud to soft, and such effects as the low bassoon answered by a high flute, that should all help to keep the finale in a state of continuous surprise, needed more character than was given here to them.

Noël Goodwin

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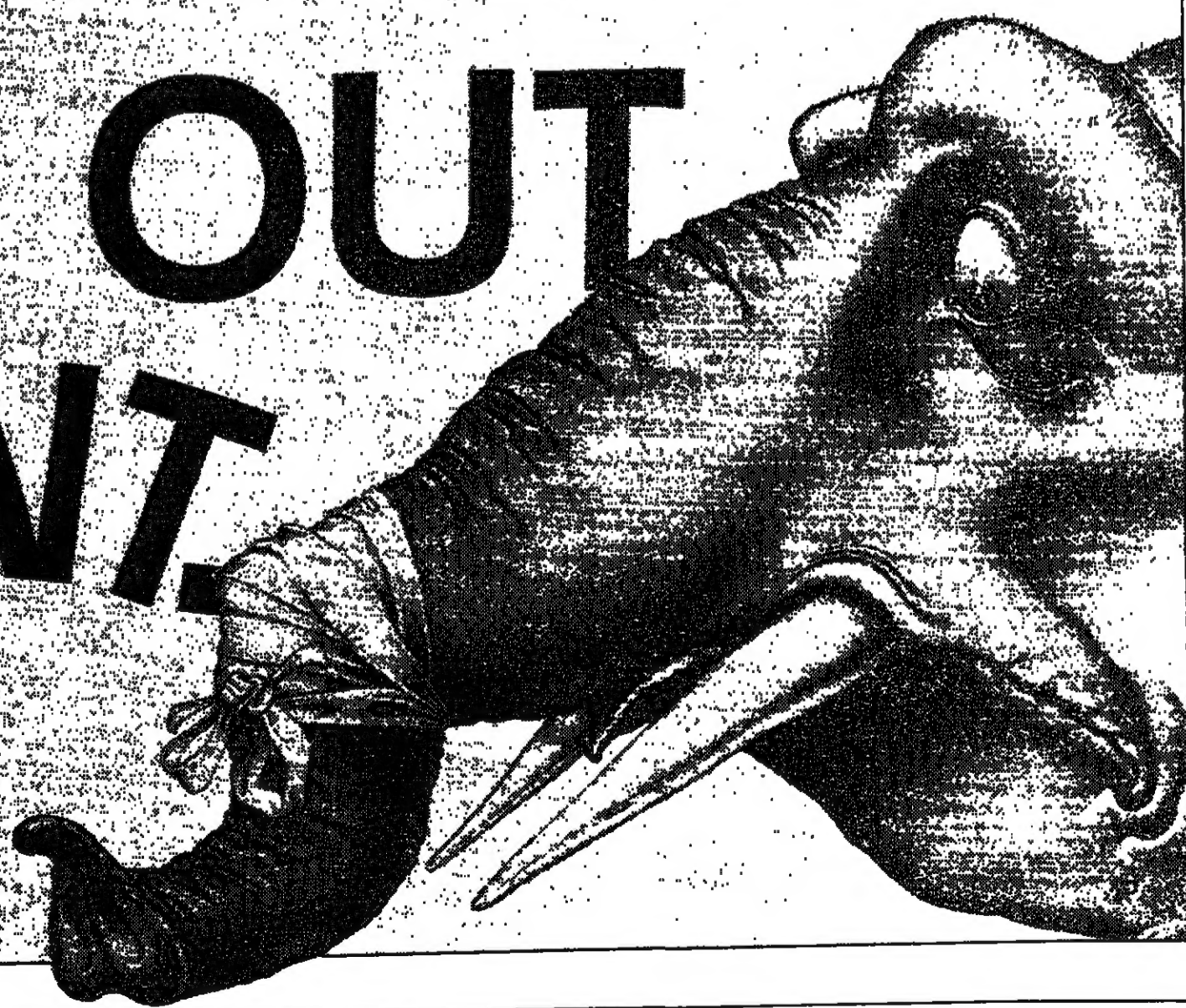
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SPECTRUM

Soviet poet and film director Yevtushenko tells Richard Owen why he hopes his epic portrayal of the dark days of the 1940s will cool the conflict between East and West

War...and a Russian's peace plea

He strides on stage in a dark suit to tumultuous applause as the lights go up in the giant Rossiya cinema.

Earlier the manager had announced that Yevgeny Yevtushenko was at the funeral of a close friend in Georgia and might not be able to attend the premiere of his film *Kindergarten*. As the final credits roll some of the audience get up to leave, thinking Yevtushenko hasn't made it. But suddenly there he is, a tall, lean figure, modestly - or with apparent modesty, for his entry was well staged - pushing his amateur cast and cameramen into the limelight before taking the microphone himself and saying he "understands people want him to read some poems".

Yevtushenko, poet turned film-maker, who in both Russia and the West is alternately lionised and derided, launches energetically into a popular poem about official corruption and backdoor trading, rounding off the evening with a recital of *The White Snows are Falling*, one of his best known verses.

It was, in a way, a backdoor premiere: no famous guests, no glitter and no official banquets, as befits a film which upset a number of high officials, and which the Kremlin is still not sure should have been released.

Afterwards, in a private reception room in the bowels of the cinema, Yevtushenko proposes toasts in his favourite Georgian wine to the camera crew who filmed with him over long months in his native Siberia, to all those who believed in *Kindergarten* despite official obstacles and mocking critics, and - this with a slight glint in his eye - to the Mosfilm officials who finally allowed Yevtushenko's profoundly autobiographical and eccentric film onto the screens of Moscow's cinemas.

Yevtushenko had recently returned from Venice, where he sat on the jury of the international film festival. With aspiring young actresses hanging on his every word, Yevtushenko talks familiarly of the cinema legends with whom he has brushed shoulders: Antonioni, Fellini, Bertolucci. "They loved me," he said. "They loved my film. They will love *The Three Musketeers* even more."

Yevtushenko's detractors are dismayed by his inability to understand that instead of

attempting to become the Soviet version of renaissance man by extending his artistic range to films, novels and photography, he should have stuck to poetry, which made him famous in the 1960s. He is now more than 50 and moves in that twilight zone between the official Soviet establishment and unorthodox or even dissident writers and artists. He is permitted to make frequent trips abroad - Venice was only the latest in a long list of outings to the West - and awarded state honours at home.

Yet his novel *Wild Berries* (recently issued in English by Macmillan) was turned down by half a dozen literary journals in Moscow at first because of objections from the censor to its free-wheeling style, and its unorthodox references to such taboo subjects as Stalin's bloody collectivization of agriculture.

The journal *Moskva* even had the distinction of turning *Wild Berries* down twice. When it finally appeared, the novel sold more than three million copies. *Kindergarten*, which has been in his head since he was a boy but has only now been realized on film, has a number of highly controversial passages, including a sequence in which the heroine rolls naked in the snow outside a rural sauna, filmed in lingering slow motion. (This sequence was much copied by film technicians for private use.)

In another scene, a young war bride strips to the waist to make love to her husband who is about to be sent to the front line and almost certain death. Both passages are shocking for prudish Soviet audiences, unused to displays of nudity on the screen but both none the less survived the censor's scissors. "In a way that is a pity for Yevtushenko," one of his critics remarked maliciously. "Otherwise he could have claimed he was being suppressed and could have enhanced his reputation as a liberal in Western eyes."

The film is too long, gauche and amateurish in parts. However, it is full of powerful and deeply felt images of Russia, including opening scenes on Red Square and in front of the Bolshoi, transformed to look as they did in wartime.

There are numerous other scenes in *Kindergarten* which



Film and peace-maker Yevtushenko directs on the set of *Kindergarten*

might seem heavy handed or sentimental to Western audiences, but which challenge Soviet convention. President Chernenko has called for yet more films about the Second World War, or the great patriotic war as the Russians call it.

But Yevtushenko's film is not at all the kind of war movie the Politburo had in mind. It shows the panic-stricken evacuation of Moscow in 1941 in graphic detail, with Muscovites smashing the train windows and bribing the conductors, played by Yevtushenko's sister, to get themselves and children to safety.

In a kaleidoscope of colour and incident Yevtushenko depicts hunger and deprivation, Jews, gypsies and Siberian criminals, and young boys standing on orange boxes to man the machines in a munitions factory. Peasant honour and human values remain alive amid chaos and poverty, but there is none of the mock heroic which normally passes for historic truth in Soviet war films.

In a classroom in Siberia, the teacher asks for a definition of the word "motherland" and when the goodie goodie replies: "The motherland is Comrade Stalin" the teacher says: "Yes, but the motherland begins with mama and papa".

To Yevtushenko's keen disappointment *Kindergarten* was not allowed out of Russia to be shown at the Cannes Film Festival, and although it was screened at Venice last month,

it could not be entered for a prize as Yevtushenko was a jury member.

In Russia the film was first released in Siberia and then in remote suburban cinemas around Moscow. Only recently did it reach cinemas in the centre. At the Rossiya it ran for one week with matinee showings only. Kremlin officials were reportedly reluctant to have the film released at all and accused Yevtushenko of pacifism and denigration of the Soviet war effort.

Reviews in the official press were mixed, as was audience reaction. At Zima Junction, where Yevtushenko was born and where much of his film was shot, some cinemagoers objected strongly to the nude scenes. On the other hand, one steelworker told Yevtushenko he had seen numerous naked women in the snow in his time but Svetlana, the film's star, was by far the most beautiful. "The scene was too short," the worker remarked. "This is not hypocrisy," Yevtushenko explained. "We have a problem with our Russian timidity or shyness. After all, we have never had books like *Tropic of Cancer* in Russia."

For Yevtushenko the most important aspect of *Kindergarten* is that it shows ordinary people. "I don't think that famous people are the most interesting ones. I am the *Papavazzo* of the common people." For the role of his grandmother, Yevtushenko picked out a ticket lady at a sports stadium. Svetlana Estre-

tova, who plays the gangster's moll who befriends the young Zhenya, had never acted professionally.

Since the film was finished she has vanished and did not attend the premiere at the Rossiya. Her friends say she is working as a street cleaner in Moscow. "She must be the most beautiful street cleaner in the world," Yevtushenko remarks daily.

As for Yevtushenko's unorthodox portrayal of the war, with its famine and panic, Yevtushenko argues that he is showing what he himself remembers. "I could not make a pompous film with big battles. This was my battlefield. It is my own autobiography and at the same time the autobiography of my generation."

Kindergarten may be distributed in America. United Artists have expressed interest in it, and Yevtushenko is very keen that his portrayal of Russian life in wartime should give Americans a more humane and sympathetic image of the Russian people at a time of sharp confrontation between the superpowers.

"I want to show them that there exists a third power, namely art. In any case, I do not like this expression 'superpower', because for me the only superpower is the human soul. I don't want to overrate my film. It has certain defects, but it is a very Russian film."

Yevtushenko hopes that when they see it Americans will become closer to the Russians, as they were for a time at the end of the Second World War when American and Russian soldiers embraced on the River Elbe after the defeat of the Germans.

With the battle to screen *Kindergarten* past, Yevtushenko is already working on his next film, *The Three Musketeers*, an idea which has been at the back of his mind for five years.

It sometimes looks as if Yevtushenko deliberately creates this whirlwind of activity - trips abroad, movie making, novel writing - not only because he thrives on recognition and popularity, but also to disguise the fact that he is engaged in a desperate race against time, and is not sure which of his efforts will endure, either in Russia or in world terms.

He still writes unorthodox poetry ("I have never felt myself to be a poet of establishment") but talks of last year, his fiftieth birthday, as "sad time". Why sad? "Because when you get to be as old as 50 nothing is truly joyful. Still, Pasternak wrote his most beautiful love poems when he was 66, so perhaps there is hope for me yet!"

And the race against time? "You know, on the palm of my hand it is written that I will live to the age of 73. Until then I will try to do everything I can to express myself." An impassioned grin.

"Perhaps that is a kind of egoism. Perhaps it would be better to say that what I am trying to do is to express the ideas of all the people who cannot express themselves."

FINDINGS

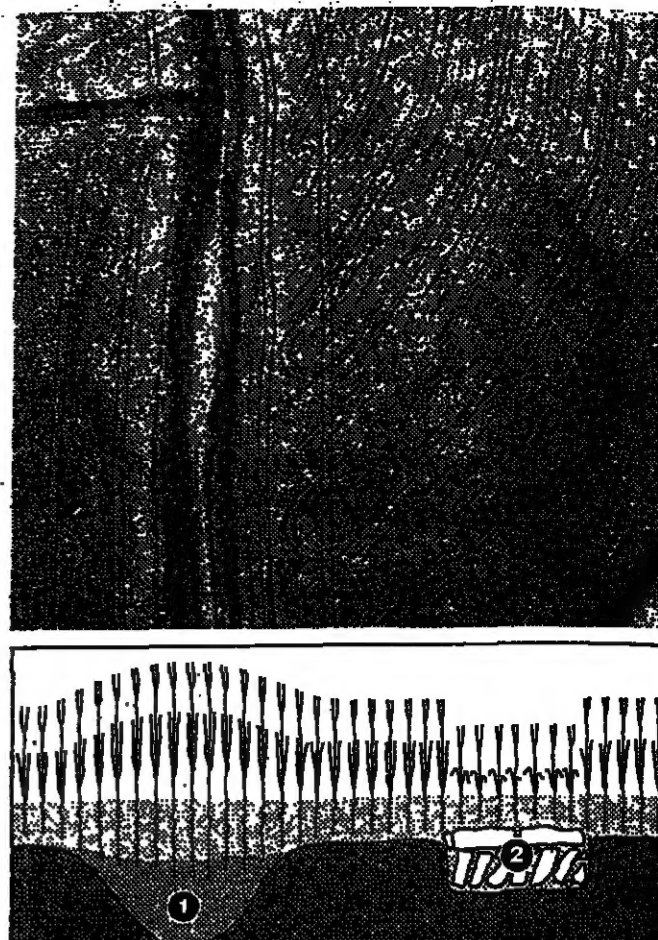
A series on research: AERIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

A sky-high treasure trail

This summer's drought was bad news for farmers and West Country historians, but to aerial archaeologists it spelt a golden harvest. Crop marks - the tell-tale reflections of buried archaeological structures - appear when plants are under stress from lack of moisture. In years that are dry on average it is only Britain's lighter and better-drained soils that provide such marks. On heavier land, or in the wetter west and north, conditions have to be much more severe before arable and pasture fields reveal their hidden treasures.

Since archaeological air photography began in earnest, 40 years ago, this country has known four droughts on a par with this year's. During each of these, 1949, 1959 and 1975-6, resources were too thinly spread to do proper justice to the thousands of windows that fleetingly opened on the past. This year, things were better organized and two dozen separate photographers are now cataloguing the results of more than 900 hours of airborne survey.

For some it is a story of spectacular discoveries in previously neglected regions, for others, working patiently in better-explored territory, it is a less glamorous but none the less vital tale of amplification.



Top: Aerial outline of Roman army post at Exeter - (1) shows how the rich growth of crops on a filled-in ditch and poor growth (2) on shallow soil above a wall can indicate buried remains.

Bronze Age 'henge'

Devon has never received the aerial reconnaissance it deserves. This summer the start of a new survey programme based on Exeter coincided with the most serious drought the South-west has known for decades. The results were remarkable.

Thanks to private sponsorship and emergency funding from Devon County Council and the new Historic Building and Monuments Commission, Frances Griffiths was able to photograph 500 previously unknown sites showing as marks in arable crops and pasture, more than had been recorded in the previous 40 years.

One of the most exciting is an early Bronze Age 'henge' discovered at the heart of the county. A lesser cousin of the famous Stonehenge, this ceremonial site is the first of its kind to have been found in Devon. It is a broad-ditched circular enclosure with entrances at either side and contains traces of egg-shaped ring of pits - once the foundations for a circle of massive timber posts.

Anglo-Saxon find

Twenty years ago the English Midlands were something of an archaeological desert. Aerial archaeology has changed all that, thanks largely to a small band of dedicated "amateur" pilot-photographers. For Jim Pickering, a long-time member

of the group, this summer's excitement was the chance to get results from some of the region's heavier and normally less rewarding soils.

Among the hundreds of sites he recorded, one is of outstanding interest to Anglo-Saxon archaeologists and historians. It lies a few miles from Leamington Spa and comprises the crop marks of a group of rectangular timber buildings, the largest and most complicated of which has all the characteristics of an Anglo-Saxon royal hall.

The seats of England's earliest kings have always been elusive, partly because they are not as deeply buried as prehistoric and Roman sites and are thus much more liable to destruction. In 40 years, only six other examples have been found, almost all of them, including the famous seventh century Northumbrian palace at Yeavering, during similar periods of drought.

Site of the shrines

Wheat and barley are always more likely to produce archaeological marks than grass. Wales, still heavily committed to cattle and sheep farming, has relatively few arable fields and its pastures have to be well and truly parched before buried walls and ditches can be seen from the air. This summer conditions were perfect for aerial survey: the only problem was to mobilize sufficient

resources to respond to the brilliant but short-lived display. Cambridge University's flying team has explored the area around the Roman fortress at Usk, in Gwent, on numerous previous occasions, including the dry summers of 1956 and 1976. This year, their return visit was rewarded by the discovery of a remarkable 50 metre-square walled enclosure with an elaborate gateway.

Inside could be seen the foundations of several groups of stone buildings. One distinctive circular structure was at first thought to house the tomb of a high-ranking Roman officer, but closer inspection suggests that it should instead be regarded as a Roman temple, possibly lying on the site of an earlier Iron-Age shrine.

Flights by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust in the far west of Wales has produced results of a rather different religious character. At Llancarfan, near Carmarthen, an inscribed stone had already proved a fifth to seventh century AD origin for a surviving thirteenth century church. Only this summer, was it seen that the whole site lies inside a multiple-ditched Iron-Age enclosure. Nearby at Henllan, a second early Christian church showed similar signs of being established in the midst of a much older settlement.

Together, the two sites provide important evidence that some of Britain's earliest monastic foundations may have their roots buried in an even deeper past.

Rowan Whimster

Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

Portfolio £22,000 to be won



- Winging along The ancient art of falconry lives on in Britain
- Room to move The Good Hotel Guide announces 10 of its favourites

- TV licence BBC's chairman on the chill wind of competition
- Trying time The new England rugby team meets the Wallabies

PLUS: News from home and abroad; Values shines the light on lamps; Family Life sets about children's television; Drink on November wines; Eating out in new wine bars; Travel in Tobago; Prize Concise Crossword; Bridge; Chess

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A trip down melody lane

moreover... Miles Kingston

Ronnie Scott's Club is 25 years old this month. It may not sound a lot, but in relative terms it's the equivalent of keeping a newspaper going for 400 years, a miner's strike for five years or an impromptu speech by Ronald Reagan for five minutes. Jazz clubs simply don't last that long. The only reason that Ronnie's (as everyone calls it) has lasted is the stubbornness of its two owners, Ronnie Scott and Pete King, so it never once felt like work. The hardest thing to do was avoiding over-praising Stan Tracey. For years and years he was the house pianist, accompanying all the incoming American stars, and quite often, to my ears, playing as well as or better than them. Stan himself was at the party, staggering under the impact of three major honours this year, including being made an honorary member of the Royal Academy of Music.

"Nice to have the badges", he muttered, "but they don't take them at Sainsbury's". As I've hinted, jazz musicians are not a sentimental lot on top, and their self-deprecating sense of humour is the nearest anyone

has ever come to rivaling Jewish humour.

Ronnie himself is famous for his deadpan jokes, which, on a good night, he will reel off in an endless stream. A week ago on television he was complaining that everyone called them bad jokes. They're not, he maintained; they're very good.

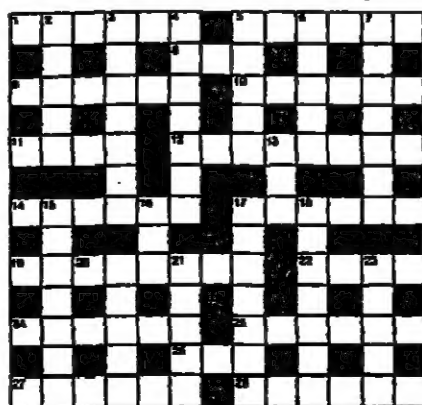
I agree. For instance, one night he was chatting to the audience when the bass player Ron Maxwell stood on to the stand, wearing a hideous red plaid shirt and an equally garish pair of trousers in a different, clashing tartan. Ronnie stared at him in silence for ten seconds, then confided to the mike:

"Somewhere in London tonight there's a Ford Consul with no seat covers".

But the joke of his I still like best is the one about the chef at the club who, claims Ronnie, is half black and half Japanese. Every December 7 he attacks Pearl Bailey. I hope somebody somewhere is getting his routine on film so that it is preserved for posterity, or, at the very least, so that it can be shown at the club's fiftieth anniversary.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 485)

- ACROSS:
- 1 Approval (6)
 - 5 Curve-cutting saw (6)
 - 8 Flightless bird (3)
 - 9 Street circle (6)
 - 10 Ribbon pasta (6)
 - 11 Nobleman (4)
 - 12 Not busy (8)
 - 14 Marshy (6)
 - 17 Scrounger (6)
 - 19 Badge (8)
 - 22 Bloodthirsty (4)
 - 24 Prescription (6)
 - 25 Burning (6)
 - 26 Failure (3)
 - 27 Irritable (6)
 - 28 Behind ball (6)



- DOWN:
- 2 Lift (5)
 - 3 Propriety (7)
 - 4 Affirm (7)
 - 5 Military rulers (5)
 - 6 Phantom (5)
 - 7 Silt soils (7)

- 13 Prompt (3)
- 15 Engage (7)
- 16 Poor (3)
- 17 Swagger (7)
- 18 Driver's glasses (7)
- 20 Abraham's son (5)
- 21 Poor (3)
- 23 Demolished (5)

SOLUTION TO No 484

ACROSS: 5 Pronouncement 9 Rig 10 Editorial 11 Sweat 13 Suppose 16 Pyjamas 19 Altar 22 Restraint 24 Pop 25 Frivolousness DOWN: 1 Sports 2 Boggle 3 Momentum 4 Antics 5 Peco 6 Mexico 7 Sealie 12 Way 14 Phantasm 15 Ska 16 Purify 17 Jesuit 18 Sailor 20 Topper 21 Repeat 23 Room



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مكتبة الامم المتحدة

FRIDAY PAGE

Erica tries a parachute

Gill Pyrah (left) meets the author of *Fear of Flying* and finds that, ten years on, her new book is yet more sex and solace

Oh, but the camera does tell lies you know, absolute whoppers. Erica Jong's publicity shots give her a longish face, round-eyed and wide-mouthed. There are generous swathes of blonde hair - the sort pulp writers habitually describe as "golden mane". The two-dimensional Jong appears wry, alert and powerful.

The rounded-out lady arising from a low-slung leather sofa, needing a hand from her boyfriend, stops rising a good five inches short of one's expectation, grins in a diffident way as though commencing a viva voce and tugs the applied suede dress straight about dumpy legs, above strappy sandals which are wobbling dangerously close to collapse. It is this small hand I'm shaking which launched a thousand zippier erotic encounters for her heroine, Isadora Wing. Isadora, despite her fear of flying, traversed America and Europe on a hectic whistlestop tour of chance meetings. (That was what young, divorced, liberated, intellectual, Jewish ladies in search of fulfilment did in those days).

Ten years on, Erica and Isadora, successful and controversial novelists the pair of them, are both the other side of three marriages, single mothers with much-adored small daughters and, yes still have the urgent need for the comforts that come with a man.

In *Parachutes and Kisses* Isadora, bereft after the death of her marriage to soul-mate Josh, is casting around for solace. The casting couch for those who would play her next leading man is vaulted as regularly as the leather horse in the gym. The gymnastics themselves vary in standard from club amateur to Olympic. It is ludicrous, but sexy, sad and true.

Ms Jong tells me, however, that she passed through the promiscuous grieving stage after her last divorce some time ago. She, daughter Molly, and her partner of three years, Chip, are settling into and renovating an old Manhattan brownstone. He organizes the building works while she writes. After scoring such successes already, does she still feel the need to write? More than ever, is the answer. What is more, although Anthony Burgess and John Updike among others rained praises on *Fear of Flying*, she thinks she has improved. "I think my writing is good now. I feel very much in control. In *Parachutes and Kisses*

I've found stronger powers of description than before." For "stronger" read "longer". Indeed, I had been prepared not to admire Ms Jong because she makes her readers share interminable... Well, the usual cliché is contemplation of her own navel, but it seems appropriate to pitch it a little lower here. Too thoughtful for the prurient reader, all others except - possibly even including - any current analyst must surely find it tediously self-indulgent.

But then, she is a scholar and fan of long-winded eighteenth century English literature. Her academic background stems from a childhood steeped in books and erudition at home in New York. Even in her teens, she thought absolutely everyone lived like that. After marriage to her college sweetheart - almost inevitable in the early 1960s - she was next married for seven years to a shrink.

Jong is irritated that critics still carry on about the sexual frolics

Isadora, at the onset of *Fear of Flying*, was on a 747 en route to a congress of psychoanalysts with her husband, analyst Bennett Wing. (I mean to describe a convention, but why not read it too as a collective noun?) Erica's and Isadora's lives have run in parallel - but as the author emphasizes, her close friends know that the books are not always straight autobiography. The mood and inspiration come from home, but episodes are exaggerated or invented entirely for the sake of humour.

It irritates Erica Jong that the critics still carry on about how many sexual frolics there are in the books, as though they are included merely to titillate. And, she says, they lead to leave aside the other themes.

"I am just thrown into this lions' den with puritanical people. But my message is that sex is integrated with the rest of life." Fair enough, surely? Since that is how 37-year-old single-parent divorcees of her intimate acquaintance do spend their lives, it



Erica Jong: high priestess of the intellectual sex novel

would be misleading to the point of dishonesty to pretend they do not. So let Erica Jong do the reviewer's job on *Parachutes and Kisses* herself. "I would say it's a novel of quest, picaresque in form, about the search for the grandfather, and through him herself, about a marriage coming apart and the mourning period of heartbroken promiscuity... It is about having it all in the 1980s. Isadora exemplified the 1970s woman and now, in the 1980s, we are trying to be single parents, breadwinners and feminine at the same time. Women need men and need love."

The big questions Erica, Isadora and a few million contemporaries have to answer are: what is one willing to give up for a man; and is to be half a couple more or less than being a whole individual? The child complicates matters, and moves their stories forward. Erica Isadora went to Russia in search of her roots, relations, and the recently-deceased and supremely-influential grandfather. Giving birth, while prompting Ms

Jong to look ahead to the child's future, also led her to look back to her own childhood and beyond. This has given her a sense of her own mortality.

The spiritual self is always asking for a hearing, too. She is, she knows, still in touch with her ancestors. Her dead grandfather promised to watch over Molly, which she believes he is doing. When writing "I tend to get the past, present and future all there, in a trance-like state. I tend to be more sure that there are realms of being above the purely physical." When working on her eighteenth-century pastiche, *Fanny* (a female Tom Jones) she found herself writing things she did not know to be facts but discovered later that they were.

The sense that an unseen hand has guided hers is something she shares, as I remember, with the writer she greatly admires, Fay Weldon. They have worked together on a screenplay of *Fanny*, and Fay she describes as "my kind of feminist". Jong's work has not been received

so well with the American feminist sorority, and she recalls how deeply hurt she was when, shortly after Molly was born six years ago, she read some "tough but celebratory" poems on the event to a conference of women poets in San Francisco.

They booed her off the stage. Will her sisters be appeased by her updated message in *Parachutes and Kisses*? She thinks they will understand. "The women's movement has moved into a new phase. I was just at Gloria Steinem's fiftieth birthday party, and Bette Midler was doing an act, in a low-cut dress and making a lot of jokes about breasts. All these feminists were laughing and joking and wearing evening gowns and make-up. Women of the 1980s are not as afraid of being feminine and adorned. We do not have to wear jack-boots and carry knapsacks any more to be taken seriously."

"We do not have to wear jack-boots any more to be taken seriously"

Much of what she had to tell me had been warmed over many times on the publicity circuit. The Dallas-via-Dunstable luggage tags were almost visible on the overnight bags under her eyes. But she would suddenly become engaged and alert when, for example, we discussed the patriarchal religions and the centuries-long suppression of witchcraft - whenever women have taken any power or control they have been accused of being devil-riden and so murdered.

She took pause when I pointed out that in many ages she would have been considered a witch herself - not least for writing about, and so controlling, men's potency. Would she use the power which undoubtedly accrues to her fame to be politically influential? Maybe, yes, when Molly is grown and she has more time. Meanwhile, she is enraged by state interference in women's lives, and the anti-abortion bandwaggoners in particular.

"They talk about the rights of the unborn child and they don't give a flying-you-know-what for the ones that are born already, with their cuts in welfare and education and their skyfalls of nuclear weapons."

However, political activity is only a possibility for the future, so we close, peacefully, and Ms Jong totters off to join Chip, who is inspecting Dr Johnson's House.

I have met great cooks who can sometimes turn in a duff mousses; I remember who miss the pefan from time to time. It can happen. *Fear of Flying* was a milestone, *Parachutes and Kisses* is a milestone, and one grinding very little substance exceedingly small. But I could not have said that to her face, because it's such a vulnerable friendly one.

Parachutes and Kisses by Erica Jong (Granada, £8.95).

MEDICAL BRIEFING

By the grave divided



The latest mortality figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys provides more evidence of a divided nation.

If 100 is taken as the expected death rate from heart attacks and the expected death rate from lung cancer, the figures for the last year show that people in the North are more likely to fall into all three categories.

same westward into Wales with the exception of lung cancer. Women in West Yorkshire, for example, had a higher rate of heart disease than men or women in any other part of England and Wales that year (126), although women in the North, Greater Manchester and Tyne and Wear weren't far behind. Among men, the greatest mortality rate from heart disease last year occurred in Greater Manchester (119). Men from Tyne and Wear score worst for lung cancer with a rate of 142 (26 for women). Men from Merseyside were close behind at 134 and Merseyside women had the highest lung cancer rate for women - 128.

Blood test



A test which could ensure that donated blood is free of the virus thought to cause AIDS has been developed in Britain.

Devised by doctors at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School and the Chester Beatty Laboratories in London, it could be available next year.

The test, which looks for antibodies to the virus HTLV-3 (Human T-lymphotropic type 3 virus) should ensure British blood supplies are AIDS-free. This would help prevent such tragedies as have occurred in the US, where 70 people developed AIDS after receiving contaminated blood transfusions.

Studies have shown that antibodies to HTLV-3 are virtually ubiquitous in people with AIDS and are common in "at risk groups" (homosexuals and drug addicts; and haemophiliacs because of the blood products they need) but doctors stress that a test for HTLV-3 antibodies is not a test for AIDS.

In fact no one really knows what a positive test for HTLV3 antibodies means.

Doctors suspect, however, that many people with an HTLV-3 infection never become ill at all others suffer a transient mild illness. Only a few will develop AIDS, they say.

What is paradoxical is that the short-term prospects for women with either a large tumour or trouble in their lymph nodes are not good, however if a woman survives the first five years her chances of living indefinitely and ultimately dying from other causes are as good as those of a woman who started treatment with much better prospects.

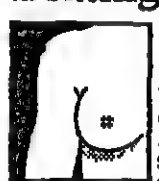
In the group studied, 25 per cent of the women living for more than 20 years had originally been diagnosed with large tumours and more than a third had affected lymph nodes. So, as Mr Feinstein points out, there are so many variables at work which influence the outcome of breast cancer that it is impossible to predict which woman will be cured.

The hope is for those women who may believe they have no future. The longer they live the better their prospects.

Childhood examined more than 400 six-year olds who had all been admitted to hospital in New Zealand before they were five years old.

It found that even youngsters who spent more than three weeks in hospital were unlikely to develop behavioural difficulties as a result of their stay. Any problems they did have were linked to the home situation.

Beating cancer



"There is a small message of hope for women who have breast cancer," says Mr Ian Feinstein, consultant surgeon at London's Guy's Hospital breast cancer unit, following publication in the *British Medical Journal* of an analysis of 51 women who survived for more than 20 years after the disease was diagnosed.

About a fifth of women with breast cancer can expect to survive that long - a proportion matched in the Guy's study. The hope comes from some unexpected findings and paradoxes among those survivors.

Normally the outlook is thought to be bleak for women who have large tumours when first diagnosed or if they have affected lymph nodes in their armpits. Yet a surprising number of women who started therapy with the odds stacked against them fared well for 20 years.

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Olivia Timbs and Lorraine Fraser

How to give decay the brush off

In her final report, Teresa Skelly explains all there is to know about dental health care and the costs



Not so long ago dental disease was regarded as inevitable and people were resigned to a likely fate of being fitted with dentures before they were 50. A lot has changed since 1948. Decay rates are falling and gum disease is thought to be largely preventable - some experts say that dental disease could actually soon become a thing of the past, much like TB. Clearly this cannot be achieved by dentists alone. It will need a change in social attitudes to health overall before we can hope to end the misery or ease the cost of dental disease in Britain.

Here is a guide to how you can fight tooth decay and gum disease and how to get the best out of a dentist working in the National Health Service. The advice comes from a dentist running one of the country's leading preventive practices.

What can I do to prevent dental disease? Undoubtedly the single most effective measure anyone can take to combat decay and gum disease is to cut sugar consumption. It won't be easy because almost all the food we buy nowadays contains added sugar. Even people who don't eat a lot

of confectionery and don't add sugar to tea or coffee may be eating a lot - it's in everything from cans of corned beef and fruit to jars of tomato ketchup. Baby foods, too, often contain high levels of added sugar. Even low-sugar rusks are still 20 per cent sugar.

So sadly the contents list of any packaged food product - confectionery is usually listed in order of amount. Try to change to products with less sugar, buy sugar-free products where possible and eat more fresh foods. Without sugar the plaque which forms in the mouth cannot form the acids which cause decay and, eventually, gum disease.

How do I brush my teeth properly? Put the bristles of the brush at the point between the gum and the tooth at an angle of 45 degrees and then brush in very small circles, firmly but not vigorously. Brushing frequently but incorrectly will do little to help remove plaque - brushing properly twice a day is vital.

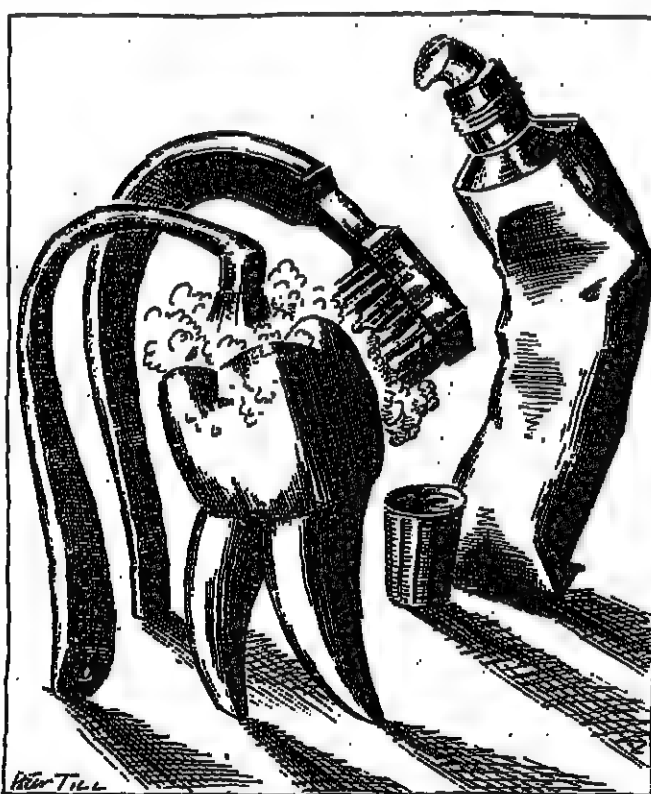
But the main benefit of regular brushing remains, not the removal of plaque, but the frequent application of fluoride

which acts to combat bacteria which leads to decay.

What sort of brush should I use? For most people a nylon, short-headed brush of medium hardness with three rows of six tufts is recommended. Hard-bristle brushes are now thought to wear away the enamel of the tooth and the gums. If you have children who are still too young to brush their own teeth buy a toothbrush with a small head and a decent-sized handle so that you can grip it properly and brush their teeth effectively. Should I use dental floss?

Yes. It is particularly good for disturbing the kind of plaque which builds up in the places you can't get at by brushing. If there is blood on the floss after you've used it this may indicate gum disease so you should check with your dentist. Floss is available from any chemist for about 60p.

What can I do to prevent my children suffering early decay? From birth breast feeding is a good idea because the child will not receive the added sugars contained in powdered milk. Thereafter avoid creating a sweet tooth - try to encourage them to enjoy unsugared foods.



And make sure they are brushing their teeth properly and regularly.

How can I tell if I am brushing my teeth properly? Disclosing tablets can be bought from any chemist but ordinary vegetable food dyes are cheaper and just as effective. Simply paint some on to the teeth. Where plaque remains it will show up in dark spots. Keep brushing and repeating the test until you cannot see any more spots - then you'll know you have cleaned your teeth properly. If the plaque is still there ask your dentist to advise you on better brushing.

Should I use fluoride tablets? If you live in an area which does not have fluoride in the water supply it may be a good idea. Fluoride drops, which contain lower doses, are better for children. Either can be obtained from a chemist for around 50p.

How do I find a good dentist? Ring around a few surgeries and ask whether they are practising prevention or get a recommendation from your local Family Practitioner Committee.

How can I tell if I have a dentist who is committed to prevention? Questions about your general health, smoking and diet are a good sign as is a willingness to explain why you need treatment.

How can I be certain I am having treatment on the NHS? Ask. Your dentist may be

morally and ethically obliged to tell you if he's treating you privately but he isn't legally bound to.

Am I entitled to free treatment on the NHS? Free routine treatment is available for expectant or nursing mothers, under-18s and those on supplementary benefits. It can be extended to those up to 19 who are in full-time education and to those on low incomes, receiving free milk or vitamins on income grounds. If you think you are eligible ask your dentist for form F1D on which you apply to the local DHSS.

How often should I go for a check-up? If you have a good dentist who is interested in prevention there is no harm in going six-monthly.

Is there any advantage having work done privately? It depends how ethical your dentist is. There is little advantage in having routine work like fillings done privately. For cosmetic work - bridges and crowns - you are likely to get a better quality job since your dentist can afford to use a better standard of technician. You get what you pay for. Cosmetic work is cheaper on the NHS. See table.

How do I complain if I am unhappy about treatment given on the NHS? Write to your local Family Practitioner Committee - you'll

NHS v PRIVATE

How charges compare between NHS and private dental treatment:

Check-up: NHS, Free; Private, £10-£20. Scale and Polish: NHS, £4.20; Private, Approx. £10.50. Item 5a (prolonged gum treatment): NHS, £26.30-£19.40; Private, Two half-hour sessions, around £40. Fillings: NHS, £3.30-£12.50 (max.); Private, £40-£60 per hour. Full Gold Crown: NHS, £64-£71; Private, £100-£150. Porcelain Jacket Crown: NHS, £38; Private, £50-£60. Porcelain and Gold Bonded Crown: NHS, £68; Private, £100-£250. Extractions: NHS, £3.30 for one, £18 for more than 20; Private, £10-£12 per tooth. Dentures (full set): NHS, £64; Private, £125-£750. Three-tooth bridge: NHS, £177-£205; Private, £200-£500. For routine NHS treatment the patient pays up to a maximum of £14.50 in one of the groups exempt from charges. For more complex work like crowns and bridges the maximum chargeable is £110. Rates for private work are negotiable. Some dentists, however, charge by the hour (£40-£60).

find the address in the telephone directory. Complaints must be made within eight weeks of the incident giving rise to the complaint coming to your notice or within six months of the completion of a course of treatment.

Sometimes the complaints procedure can be very protracted - it will take at least four months before your case comes up before the Dental Services Committee.

You can help enormously by giving as much information as possible at the outset, including your full name, date of birth, National Health Service number (this is on your medical card and should not be confused with your National Insurance number), name of the dentist - not just the practice - exact dates of the first and subsequent visits plus details of what was done at each visit.

Complaints about dentists in Scotland or Northern Ireland should be made through your local health board.

How do I complain about work done privately? There can be very little recourse except for taking out a civil action in the courts. Complaints of gross professional misconduct should be expressed to the General Dental Council at 37 Wimpole Street, London W1.

It is always wise to consider insurance when having work done privately. Ask your insurance broker which schemes are available.

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FORCING THE PACE ON JOBS

Although superficially encouraging, the October unemployment statistics suggest on closer inspection that Britain's jobless are still increasing at an annual rate of nearly 200,000. At this rate, the registered total will comfortably exceed three and a half million by the next general election, even excluding school leavers. To which the three shades of political opinion represented at Westminster have different answers.

All three suffer from a certain lack of credibility. It is difficult to accept the Government's fatalism; but Labour still makes it sound all too easy to create jobs. Dr Owen, too, has rashly entered the numbers game. Thus unemployment has become a central political issue without any of the major parties managing to make much capital out of it — an unstable situation which could change as fast as the British weather.

All three, for their purposes, quote recent American experience — Reaganomics is becoming as convenient as Scripture for the support of any particular point of view. According to Mr Kinnoch and Mr Roy Hattersley, America's success in creating new jobs demonstrates the efficacy of reflation. Dr Owen adds it demonstrates the efficacy of budgetary reflation combined with firm monetary policy. But Mr Lawson argued on Tuesday that 13 million out of the 15 million jobs created in America during the past decade appeared before the budget deficit was increased and the reins of monetary policy were loosened a little. It is America's free labour market, not its free-spending

government, that he believes has put its labour force to work.

Shorn of its politics, the argument is never so clear-cut. Mr Lawson must remain set square against open reflation; though it is arguable whether its impact on interest rates, and through them on production, is presently as strong as he believes, it is painfully clear that a macroeconomic U-turn would trigger the starting pistol for a wages scramble. Yet even the first formulation of the Government's financial strategy, in 1980, allowed for some cyclical fluctuations in budgetary policy, which must permit an adjustment of targets if growth slows down, or if high productivity suggests a faster potential rate of growth.

But those demanding reflation pure and simple would be better employed finding common ground with the Chancellor on wages. Admittedly, it is precious little use lecturing trade unions on the damaging effects of real wage rises, since the business of unions in a free market is to secure the best deal for their members. Nor is it quite clear whether the recent sharp rises in pay in manufacturing are the cause or simply the consequence of a labour shortage and productivity gain. On the other hand, it does not make sense to defend union privileges which distort this free market; to believe that unions and government can comfortably agree to set a regulatory floor under wages without pricing people out of work; or, in general, to shy away from the links between pay and employment.

Average earnings have risen

modestly in America not only because of wage restraint, but because of the entry into employment of vast numbers of lower-paid employees. To Britain's Labour party, unwisely provoked by Mr Lawson's enthusiasm for "low-tech" jobs, this smacks of the "coolie" economy — a view which refuses to recognise that low-income unemployment is a worse form of slavery. But the Chancellor, who believes that America does point the way forward, is himself guilty of a certain degree of inertia.

Mr Lawson believes that a better-functioning labour market in Britain would generate more new jobs. When asked, in a recent television interview, why the Government did not then move faster to dismantle obstructions, his response was that it had to move forward by consent, and that in Britain meant slowly. But the essence of national development into a different kind of enterprise society is some forcing of pace by Government. Apart from the legal changes the Thatcher Government has concentrated on so far, it requires a vigorous overhaul of revenue and expenditure with the explicit intention of stimulating output and employment. In the fields of taxation, social security, education, industrial support, the Government has barely begun to clarify its objectives. It has been too busy controlling its budget deficit to ask whether either side of the public-sector balance sheet is constructed to the best economic advantage. To paraphrase an old, sick joke: even if the unemployed have no work to do, the Government has plenty.

UNDERNEATH THE ARCHES

You meet a different class of person underneath the arches these days. Twenty years ago the problem of tramps, dossers, vagrants or down-and-outs seemed to be largely one of ageing misfits — some sturdy, some abject — whose wretchedness the welfare state had not quite got onto yet. A survey in London in 1964 found that two thirds of men sleeping rough were over 40. A similar survey this year by the GLC found a much more equal distribution over the adult age-range, with a low proportion of over-sixties. Fewer than a quarter showed signs of a drink problem. Many, naturally, were not unemployable but members of the new host of the unemployed — and a significant minority chose the embankment by preference even though they were holding down steady low-paid jobs. The latter represent a tacit indictment of the forbidding and grimy alternative lodgings available for those in their position.

Today the Queen opens a centre in a remodelled church crypt near Waterloo designed to provide help better tailored to the needs of today's homeless, with their higher proportion of those able to benefit from help and not just from handouts. The North Lambeth Day Centre does not provide lodging. It offers social support and counselling in what is essentially an exercise in self-help. It identifies itself as "a place of change", and measures

its achievement not in bowls of soup or dormitory beds but in the number of "clients" re-established in a stable way of life. It provides often isolated and bewildered single people with company, activity and advice about where to turn for housing, work, health care or adult education.

Compared to the overall problem, the centre's contribution is pathetically small. It reaches perhaps five or ten per cent of those sleeping rough, and last year found permanent homes for only about 40 of them. A handful of other centres are doing a similar job. Local spending constraints and the statutory duty laid on councils to house homeless families but not homeless individuals mean that their clients come very low on the official list of priorities. In spite of the rising numbers of those without work because work does not exist — often drawn to London by the dream of streets paved with gold — many also find it hard to cope. Many are victims of the great emancipation of the mental hospitals, released to the mercies of a community care which does not exist.

Whether unfortunates or inadequate, they are part of a problem which has grown steadily in recent years, and is likely to go on growing. The sale of council houses and lack of funds for reconditioning continue to reduce the amount of space that councils have to offer.

STUBBORN, SPLENDID ABNORMALITY

When Mr Malcolm Rifkind arrives in Poland this weekend he will find a country in a state of shock. The murder of Father Jerzy Popieluszko by officers of the secret police has no precedent in Polish history. Even in the darkest period of Stalinism, Polish policemen did not resort to the kidnapping and assassination of Catholic priests. The Jaruzelski government seems currently to be pursuing the culprits (and those behind them) with a determination and openness quite exceptional in a Communist state. It fears popular unrest. With the help of Church and Solidarity leaders, who have appealed for calm and restraint, more bloodshed should be prevented. But it is a tragic and peculiarly difficult time for the first British ministerial visit since General Jaruzelski declared a "state of war" in December 1981.

It was right that we stopped Ministerial contacts then, as a mark of protest at the Jaruzelski's regime's "war" against its own people. It is right that Ministerial contact should be reviewed now, even despite this further act of violence. For obvious reasons, the Polish government will try to present the almost three years it has spent "in Coventry" as a regrettable interval, a folly more or less forced upon West European governments by the Reagan administration. Mr Rifkind must be careful not to give credence to this version. If the British government is resuming ministerial contacts now it is the

better to represent our national interests, present our position in international affairs, and put across our views on the internal condition of Poland — with all its external consequences.

Naturally, much of his time will be devoted to economic relations. Britain is Poland's second largest trading partner in Western Europe. Our balance of trade in the first half of this year shows an unhealthy deficit, partly because of extra Polish coal exports to help counter the effects of the miners' strike. Several joint projects with British companies have been stalled due to Poland's economic crisis. In reviewing such bilateral issues, the Minister will be bound to make two general points. First, the Polish government cannot expect Western credits on the scale it received them in the 1970s, because the surplus petro-dollars are simply no longer there. Second, it cannot expect to receive new money without strings attached because the West has seen what the Giermek regime did with such credits. After the Paris club has completed rescheduling arrangements, the best supervisory instrument will probably be the IMF if Poland finally joins it.

With western cooperation, the Jaruzelski government may pursue a slightly more independent course in economic reform and other fields. But it would be a grave mistake to overestimate the regime's potential, or desire, for independence from Moscow. Indeed if Poland were to be successfully "normalised" like

Czechoslovakia or Hungary it would cease to be a major constraint on the Soviet foreign policy. And Poland's stubborn, splendid "abnormality" is not the aim or the achievement of the Jaruzelski regime. It is the achievement of the Polish People of Solidarity and its successors, of the cautious church leadership and of outspoken priests like Father Popieluszko, of critical intellectuals, of courageous workers and farmers — in short, of national resistance.

Mr Rifkind must recognise this resistance and publicly. He may do so, for example, by expressing his concern about the political prisoners not released under July's amnesty, or subsequently rearrested (they are also an obstacle to Poland's IMF membership). He may do so by meeting Solidarity spokesmen. He may do so by calling for "dialogue". But in this land of symbolic politics, the simplest and most telling gesture would be to lay a wreath at the grave of Father Popieluszko.

To support the Poles in their daily struggle is not to destabilise or to provoke. On the contrary. The great majority of Poles want a true normalisation of their country: a return, not to Soviet norm, but to a European kind of normality, with a greater degree of pluralism, self-government, and respect for the rule of law. Poland will be more stable when the Poles are more free. Europe will be more stable when Poland is more free.

Getting together in the Community

From the Chairman of the European Democratic Group in the European Parliament

Sir, How refreshing to read Alistair Spinnell's letter in today's *Times* (October 31). At least there is one cool head at the centre of the often heated discussions about the future institutional development of the European Community.

Most British Conservatives present in Strasbourg on February 14 voted for Alistair Spinnell's Draft Treaty on European Union to go forward for consideration by national governments and parliaments; that is not to say that British Conservatives in the European Parliament agree with every proposition of the draft treaty, simply that we welcome in it a serious attempt to break out of the institutional immobilism which has now characterised the Community for too long.

Your other correspondent, Mr Leech, rightly points out that this inability of the Community to evolve a serviceable decision-making procedure attracts criticism and even contempt to the Community. Alistair Spinnell is at least trying to put that right.

There are those who profess to see a threat in the draft treaty to British national sovereignty. Sir, there is only one kind worth worrying about and that is the ability of the British people to pursue and attain what is best for this country.

We are no longer the superpower we were in the life of the older world. We are a middle-ranking industrialised democracy off the coast of continental Europe. There is nothing glorious in that situation, but alone we can achieve little. In our simplest self-interest we need to participate fully in the development, institutional and otherwise, of the European Community. There is no alternative.

Spinnell's point is well made when he says that we British need now to show whether we have our feet on the ground or in the mud. For many years after the Second World War we British told ourselves that the European Community would never get off the ground, would soon collapse, and had nothing to offer us. The outcome of this self-deception was that we did not share in the Community's founding and early development.

Much that is unsatisfactory from the British point of view in the Community has followed from our original mistake. Certain sections of British opinion are seeking to repeat this mistake in regard to the Draft Treaty on European Union. The habits of the ostrich are indeed hard to understand.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY PLUMB, Chairman,
European Democratic Group,
European Parliament,
2 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
October 31.

Miners and Libya
From Mr T. H. Richardson
Sir, There is an obvious moral distinction between trading with a "vile" regime and accepting financial support in aid of a politically motivated strike.

However, the significance of the NUM/Gaddafi connection is not primarily the morality of the NUM approach to a "vile regime" but the response. Libya and Russia are interested in harming Britain. The assistance offered by Gaddafi and the USSR puts the NUM in the same bracket as the IRA, who are also supported by Gaddafi.

Yours faithfully,
T. H. RICHARDSON,
White Gables,
Swainby,
North Yorkshire,
October 31.

From Mr M. D. T. Barley
Sir, Your correspondents Mr David J. K. Evans and Mr Nicolas Croll (October 31) both seem to have missed the point when writing about the relative merits of trade with Libya and contact with Libya by the NUM respectively.

In exceptional circumstances, private buyers of goods cannot seek to influence the policies of seller companies or countries. On the other hand, receipt by a trade union or other politicised body of gifts of funds will frequently lead to the recipient either being identified with the interests of the donor or the recipient (consciously or unconsciously) "trimming" either in recognition of the gift or as a means of attracting more money.

What may be objectionable is not the money itself, but the strings attached to it.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BARLEY,
5 Southgate Grove, NI,
October 31.

Boots for yomping
From Mr Uvedale Tristram
Sir, Mr Christopher Child's book history (October 27) is impressive, but mine goes back 10 more years.

Practical action to help Ethiopia

From the Director, World Vision of Britain

Sir, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Cameron and Mr Hamming (November 1) strike all the right notes about Ethiopia. The voluntary agencies, including World Vision, have been warning of this impending disaster for months.

Our cries have gone unheard in London and Brussels — and in Washington, Bonn, Canberra and elsewhere — until the body pile is big enough to attract the TV cameras. This is not the problem of the Third World; it is a problem of the political leaders of the so-called First World.

In this recent and most ghastly situation in Ethiopia, the possibility exists for the type of international, co-ordinated airforce relief operation of which Lord Cameron writes. Last Thursday, in Addis Ababa, World Vision's international president, the Rev Tom Houston, obtained a signed agreement from the Ethiopian relief and rehabilitation commission, Dawit Woldegiorgis, negotiated at the highest level. This stated in part that the Government of Ethiopia will do everything in its power to facilitate the successful implementation of the plan.

This plan calls for a 12-month airlift in Ethiopia, needing about 24 Hercules-type aircraft, plus shipping of government-donated grain. The rate of 50,000 tonnes a month for the next year.

The five leading voluntary agency groupings in Ethiopia, including World Vision, have formed an action consortium and are making detailed plans to use our people already in place, plus others, to distribute the food and medical aid. All that is now lacking, as Lord Cameron so rightly implies, is the political will to decide to save hundreds of thousands of lives. The nation which mounted the Falklands operations have the forces, the influence and the skills to give a decisive lead to our Western allies. All Britain has done so far is a gesture — a welcome gesture but less than one per cent of what is needed.

World Vision estimates that 6,000 people a day are dying in Ethiopia. In their name, and in the name of God their creator, will the Government please act properly and now? Yours faithfully,
PETER SEARLE, Director,
World Vision of Britain,
Dychurch House,
8 Abington Street, Northampton.

Sale of church plate

From Mr Christopher Chavasse
Sir, It seems strange that the Hon Director of an organisation known as "Friends of Friendless Churches" should complain (October 25) about the facility recently granted to St Mary-le-Bow to sell part of its silver in order to save the church having to close its doors. The time has come to put the record straight.

Efforts made by the rector and churchwardens over recent years to increase the church's continuing income had met with some success, which the chancellor of the diocese in his judgment referred to as "a matter for congratulation and some surprise, but not enough". He found as a fact that there was a financial emergency in the affairs of St Mary's and accepted the evidence that it would be extremely difficult to raise by way of appeal a sufficient further amount to make the income and expenditure balance.

The solution put forward, albeit with reluctance, by the churchwardens was that part of the non-income-producing assets should be

Maiden Castle dig

From the Reverend T. A. Beetham
Sir, The recent correspondence about Maiden Castle leaves unresolved the problem of the increasing damage being done to the ramparts of this ancient monument by grazing cattle.

During the heavy rains of the past three weeks the sheep tracks which had already been dug deep by cattle hooves have become very seriously rutted. Indeed, one track on the side of the steep north-facing middle rampart looks today as if a plough had been run along the hillside. Along the length of this face huge divots displaced by the cattle from the protective grass surface over the chalk are lying in the bottom below.

A notice on the site reads: "This monument is in the care of the Ministry of Works. It is an offence to 'plough or dig' it. If a gang of boys was seen weekend after weekend digging out sods and bowling them down the castle's side they would no doubt appear before a juvenile court. Is it *lese-majesté* that prevents the Department of the

dioxide (SO₂) emitted from our power stations.

New burning processes will not bring the reduction of SO₂ emission needed; and new designs such as fluidized bed can only be achieved in new power stations. The CEBG's proposals still leave us with the problem of our existing stations and the SO₂ they produce — in larger quantities than any other country in Western Europe.

The select committee's conclusion was that the fitting of FGD (fine gas desulphurization) equipment to existing power stations was the only way to achieve major reductions. Both the CEBG and the Government have to date ducked this issue. A programme of FGD fitting would be expensive, of course; but the environmental benefit could be incalculable.

Surely it is about time Sir Walter Marshall stopped lashing out at the select committee and started considering seriously and carefully those parts of its report he has hitherto dismissed or ignored.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS SMITH,
(Member, Select Committee on the Environment),
House of Commons.

There, however, the signs of progress end. The CEBG have totally failed to accept that serious damage is being caused to lakes, streams and fish life — both here in Britain and abroad — by sulphur

From Sir Charles Pereira FRS

Sir, The warning signs of impending disaster in Ethiopian agriculture have been reported for at least 20 years. The remedies for soil exhaustion and soil erosion are well known and have been repeatedly advised. Land misuse has already caused acute local crop failure under the Imperial regime.

In a study tour of soil erosion problems in each of the provinces, as a consultant to the Ministry of Overseas Development in 1968, I saw and reported starved crops of wheat and barley ripening at only 8in high, with most of the seed panicles empty, so that each head yielded only one or two grains. This was due, not to drought but to soil exhaustion by repeated cropping without fertilization or manure. Unprotected soil was being stripped from hill slopes throughout this rugged country by tropical intensities of rainfall.

A Food and Agriculture Organisation project, with Scandinavian funding, had planned strikingly successful demonstration plots all along the main Asmara-Addis Ababa road.

Where nutrients were supplied, crops flourished. With US aid the excellent Italian-built road was well-maintained and provided direct access from port to highlands for the supply of nutrients to the crops. But the ports were jammed then, as now, with goods for the cities.

At the same time overseas aid for medical services and drinking water supplies were releasing a rapid surge of population growth. This pattern has been repeated in the last two decades over so much of Africa that your map (p6, October 31) underestimates the coming problems. By making aid funds available for the more politically attractive urban schemes donor countries and agencies have encouraged weak or short-sighted governments to ignore their rural problems.

Unless the well established methods are applied to the basic problems of food production, sporadic responses by donor countries to famine crises can only postpone even greater disaster in Africa.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES PEREIRA,
Farnham,
Tisbury,
Maidstone,
Kent,
October 31.

sold and reinvested so as to produce extra income to keep the church open.

Faced with a choice of approaches, viz, the reproach attaching to a possible closure of the church and the reproach of the conservationists for selling a small fraction of the church's silver heritage, the churchwardens chose the latter.

That the chancellor took the same view means that for the foreseeable future one of Westminster's finest churches will remain open for the counsel and comfort of those in need, for ceremonial and cultural functions in the City and not least for the ministry to national and international visitors drawn to the church of Dick Whittington and Bow Bells.

Surely it must be for posterity to judge whether the churchwardens' and the chancellor's decision to put people before possessions was right or wrong.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER CHAVASSE,
Hon Treasurer,
St Mary-le-Bow Church,
Chapelside, EC2.

Environment from exercising its statutory care when the offenders are cattle of Duchy of Cornwall tenants?

Yours faithfully,
T. A. BEETHAM,
17 Grosvenor Crescent,
Dorchester, Dorset.

A legal precedent

From Mr Charles Hunt
Sir, In your sports news page (October 3) you claimed that a legal precedent would be set on October 29 when, for the first time, a football match would be sponsored by a firm of solicitors.

We are sorry to disappoint Messrs Blakeney Greene and Pridie, but this firm sponsored a Milk Cup match between Leicester and Brentford at Griffin Park on October 9. In fact, this was not the first incidence of legal sponsorship, as we have sponsored matches in the past but, of course, these have had to be done without our professional hats on.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES HUNT,
Charles Hunt & Co. (Solicitors),
8 Charterhouse Buildings, EC1.

I am not sure which of the two dreamed up the brilliant idea of a discourse in French on the label, but this was much in character with the inspiration and imagination which accompanied the rest of its launch — the name itself, Houses of Parliament Sauce, shortened to HP (my grandfather's favourite diction was "condense"); the fact that it was the first thick sauce to be distributed nationally; and sales promotion by, among other things, giving away free miniature bottles of sauce from miniature carts drawn by miniature Shetland ponies or donkeys which toured the streets of all the towns in the UK. The original idea was to use zebras, but this proved impossible.

As possibly the last family contribution to the popularity and prosperity of this national institution, may I be permitted to join your other correspondents in deploring the present label and suggesting that the present proprietors would do themselves a lot of good by reverting to the original label in its entirety.

Yours faithfully,
E. H. MOORE,
Ashford Hall,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands,
October 29.

UK commitment to Unesco

From Mr John Maddison

Sir, In the letter from them you publish today (October 29), Lord Harris of High Cross and others say that it is vital that Britain give a year's notice of withdrawal from Unesco. Not so. In innumerable practical ways the day-to-day activities of Unesco continue to reflect, and are coloured by, British achievements, expertise and values in education, science and culture.

This is evident to anyone like myself with a long, close and entirely disinterested acquaintance with these activities. For Britain to cut itself off from what remains the principal world network in intellectual matters would be demonstrably against the national interest and, indeed, the height of folly.

This would be so even if the charges brought by Lord Harris and the others were all valid. But one at least of these charges (that Unesco is hostile to Britain) is wildly inaccurate and clearly not based on first-hand knowledge.

There is undoubtedly a need to reform Unesco, which isn't surprising of an organisation whose membership has grown from some thirty to over 160 states since it was born in London close on 40 years ago. The commonsense way to achieve such reform is from within.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MADDISON,
Knowle House,
Wood Road,
Hindhead,
Surrey,
October 29.

From Lord Blake, FBA

Sir, The letter from Lord Harris of High Cross and others (October 29) urging the Government to withdraw from Unesco is fully justified. Why should the British taxpayer continue to subsidise an organisation which is not only extravagant and incompetent but has been for twenty years a sounding board for anti-Western propaganda?

One need not be a particularly "dry" Conservative, or indeed a Conservative at all, to regard the situation as intolerable. The £5m or so which we spend would be better employed in supporting the BBC Overseas Service and the British Council. These may not be perfect institutions but at least they stand for values in which the vast majority of the British people believe.

Yours faithfully,
BLAKE,
House of Lords,
October 31.

Mr Tebbit's ordeal

From the Assistant Director General of the BBC

Sir, Your leading article, "The message of the camera" (October 30) in which you consider "journalistic scruples" notes several dimensions which, be assured, are constantly in the minds of the BBC's editors.

No journalistic organisation can be more aware than the BBC of the perils of news management and the manipulation of events.

All journalists, in whatever medium, need constantly to apply stringent criteria to determine the line between, on the one hand, voyeurism and sensationalism and, on the other, the danger of "sanitising the truth" out of the news.

For the record, may I say that the dramatic pictures of Mr Norman Tebbit's rescue from the rubble of the Grand Hotel were not transmitted "live". They were subjected, before transmission, to rigorous editorial judgment — including, I might add, compassion and care for a courageous man in danger and pain.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN H. PROTHOROE,
Assistant Director General,
BBC,
Broadcasting House, W1,
October 31.

Sauce of learning

From Mr E. H. Moore

Sir, If HP Sauce is not already regarded universally as a national institution, surely the fact that it merits discussion in the correspondence columns of your famous newspaper finally confers on it this status. Naturally I am delighted because my grandfather was the founder of the company which invented it and my father played a leading role in its introduction, which transformed a fairly prosperous family vinegar brewery into a company of national and international fame.

I am not sure which of the two dreamed up the brilliant idea of a discourse in French on the label, but this was much in character with the inspiration and imagination which accompanied the rest of its launch — the name itself, Houses of Parliament Sauce, shortened to HP (my grandfather's favourite diction was "condense"); the fact that it was the first thick sauce to be distributed nationally; and sales promotion by, among other things, giving away free miniature bottles of sauce from miniature carts drawn by miniature Shetland ponies or donkeys which toured the streets of all the towns in the UK. The original idea was to use zebras, but this proved impossible.

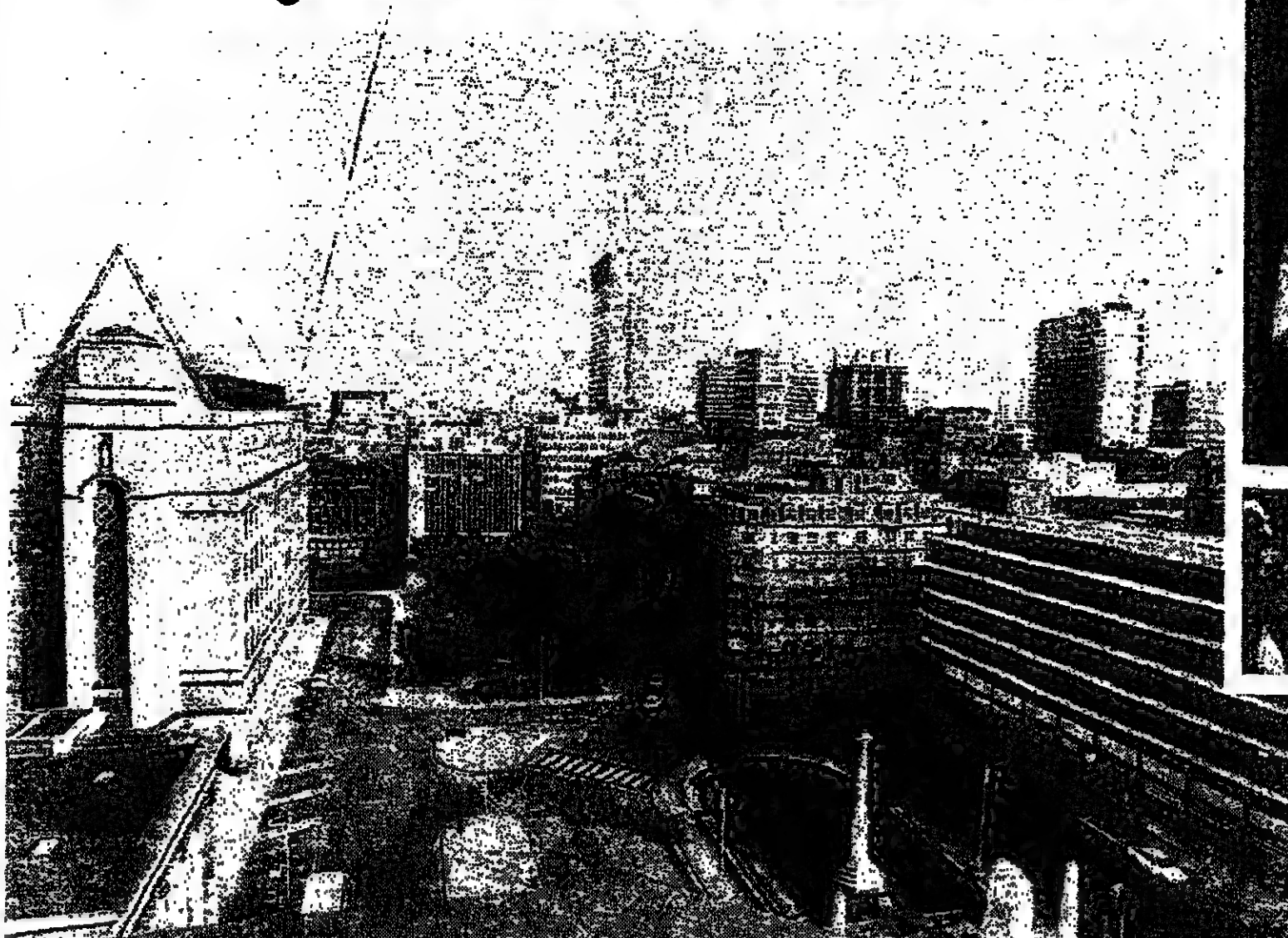
As possibly the last family contribution to the popularity and prosperity of this national institution, may I be permitted to join your other correspondents in deploring the present label and suggesting that the present proprietors would do themselves a lot of good by reverting to the original label in its entirety.

Yours faithfully,
E. H. MOORE,
Ashford Hall,
Sutton Coldfield,
West Midlands,
October 29.



Hard-hit by the recession and by industrial blight, the city is bouncing back – so much so it sees itself as more than ever a regional capital

City of Manchester



The city arms – translation "By council and work"; panorama from the roof of the Midland Hotel; and right, a flicker of hope – candlemaker Kath Moran in the Craft Centre



In the long, hot summer just ended there appeared upon the streets in the heart of Manchester a sight that would not have been thought possible only a few years ago. Pavement cafes, their tables decked out beneath colourful sun umbrellas, brought a touch of the continental lifestyle to the old city.

Perhaps nothing else could have so well illustrated the change of style that Manchester has, and still is, undergoing. Not for the first time this century it has had to shrug off its old, outdated clothes and pull on a more fashionable and up-to-date outfit. For those who still associate Manchester only with football, cricket and Lancashire hot-pot under the gloomy, leaden skies of Lowry's depressing industrial landscapes, then the changes inspired by the city council-led campaign to inject new life into its heart are nothing short of remarkable.

There are still large stretches of the city that bear the ugly scars of industrial blight, of poor housing, high unemployment and decaying buildings. But it was always a city built for work rather than to be admired simply for its physical appearance.

For the past five years there has been a continuous campaign of improvement to the city to make the centre an attractive, thriving business, shopping, entertainment and cultural hub – not only for the 458,000 residents of Manchester but also for the 2.5 million who live in Greater Manchester and the further

15 million people in a potential catchment area which stretches south to the Potteries, east across the Pennines to Yorkshire, north to the Lake District and west to Liverpool.

In a city that is home to Manchester United and Manchester City, football will always be a great attraction, and cricket Test matches at Old Trafford attract large crowds. But Manchester is much more than that now. The range of entertainments on offer has improved dramatically. One theatrical impresario, summing up the potential for the city, said: "There are reckoned to be 12 million people within one hour's travelling of the west end of London and there are 10 million within one hour of Manchester. That is why it must be Britain's second theatre city."

Manchester has been the home of the Halle Orchestra for more than 100 years and there are several

important art galleries. It was the City art gallery which led the successful fight to keep the Duccio painting of the crucifixion in the country by raising £1.8m to prevent its going to America. There has also been a large development of an urban heritage park in the Castlefields area featuring an air and space museum and turning the old Liverpool Road railway station into a museum of science and industry.

Coupled with a wide choice of restaurants, night clubs and an improved range of hotels, the city centre has created a new life for itself.

Manchester is also a major shopping centre for millions of people in the North-West and even further afield. Later this year the city council and British Rail intend to launch a series of "shoppers specials" to win city centre shopping a wider market.

It is dominated by the vast and controversial Arndale centre, the largest covered shopping complex in Europe, housing five big department stores and more than 200 other shops with car-parking provision, restaurants and its own bus station. The design and size of the centre still attract criticism but it draws huge crowds.

The campaign to beautify and pedestrianise city centre areas around Piccadilly, St Ann's Square and the elegant King Street were seen as necessary if whole areas of the city were not to become commercial backwaters.

Perhaps the biggest change in the life of Manchester is in the type of jobs it now provides. Almost two-thirds of employment for the 256,000 people who work in the city falls in the service sector rather than manufacturing. A recent survey showed that the service sector

accounted for more than 137,000 jobs, compared with only 33,000 in manufacturing, a far cry from the days when cotton was king and the years of heavy engineering, when locomotives from Manchester went to all corners of the Empire.

The biggest employer is the council itself with 35,000 staff and, after the service sector, the largest number of people, 53,000, work for the professional and scientific services. Manchester has lost major industries but is still home to some internationally known concerns like Ferranti, ICL, British Aerospace, GEC and Courtaulds. It is also the headquarters of the National Computing Centre, emphasising the shift from an industrial scene dominated by the demands of textiles to one at the heart of the micro-electronics and information technology field.

The city's higher education campus is reckoned to be the largest

in Europe, encompassing the University of Manchester, UMIST (University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology), Manchester Polytechnic, the Manchester Business School and, just next door, the University of Salford. Thousands of overseas students are on courses in the city.

More than 15,000 people work in insurance and banking, while the communication and transport industries employ almost 21,000, and the city is the second centre for the national press, television and radio.

A major advantage is the presence on its doorstep of Manchester International Airport, the fastest growing airport in Europe, which expects to handle almost six million passenger and £700m of freight this year.

The impetus for further improvement is still there and earlier this month the chamber of commerce and industry launched a competition to find new ways to renovate disused and decaying buildings and land, an unwanted legacy of the industrial revolution. And there are real, human problems within its boundaries. Unemployment is currently over 23 per cent and in some of the deprived, inner city areas it is much worse. In Moss Side, the scene of the 1981 summer riots and an area of high coloured population, male unemployment stands at a depressing 51 per cent. In real terms those percentage figures mean that more than 44,000 of Manchester's citizens are without a job and

without much prospect of the situation dramatically improving.

The demise of its heavy engineering sector has left an unfilled void: there is a desperate need to attract light-manufacturing industries into the city to provide unskilled and semi-skilled employment. The city has lost its assisted-area status and in reality is able to offer only a very limited financial aid package to attract new industry, amounting to little more than loan guarantees. The city authorities would like the Government to change the basis on which regional aid is calculated so that the lumping together of Moss Side and the wealthy Cheshire middle-class town of Wilmslow in the same travel-to-work assessment areas no longer applies.

High unemployment among its own people threatens their spending power and their ability to take advantage of facilities, which, though clearly intended to be regional, are housed within the city limits. Though Manchester City Council is a major local authority in its own right, with an annual budget of around £600m, within the Greater Manchester council, it is one of 10 authorities. And the Government's declared intent to abolish the Metropolitan County Councils is a cause for concern within Manchester town hall, with fears over the future financing of many of the cultural and entertainment facilities developed with GMC aid.

Peter Davenport

Welcome to

**CITY CENTRE
MANCHESTER**
Right at the heart of things

IMPROVING ACCESS AND APPEARANCE AND THEREBY ATTITUDES ARE THE KEYS TO RE-ESTABLISHING CITY CENTRE MANCHESTER AS THE REGIONAL CENTRE. IS IT WORKING? THERE ARE MORE SHOPPERS THAN EVER. RETAIL CASH SALES LAST CHRISTMAS WERE HIGHER THAN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE. PRIME RETAIL VACANCIES HAVE DECREASED. HOTELS, RESTAURANTS AND SERVICES REPORT INCREASED BUSINESS. SHOPPING AREAS HAVE BEEN PEDESTRIANISED. PARKING HAS BEEN INCREASED AND BETTER SIGNED. AWARD-WINNING MUSEUMS AND CASTLEFIELD, BRITAIN'S FIRST URBAN HERITAGE PARK, HAVE ATTRACTED HALF A MILLION VISITORS. THE ARTS ARE BOOMING WITH RECORD ATTENDANCES, THE OPERA HOUSE HAS RE-OPENED AND THE CONTEMPORARY ARTS CENTRE WILL OPEN IN '85. THE CENTRAL STATION EXHIBITION AND EVENTS CENTRE IS WELL UNDER WAY. MANCHESTER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING IN EUROPE... CITY CENTRE MANCHESTER'S REVIVAL? IT'S WORKING.

A PROMOTION BY MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MANCHESTER

For 15 years, trade was declining. But that is changing as the city balances the old and the new

A 'dirty old town' fighting back

City Centre Manchester - Right At The Heart Of Things is the slogan which greets every visitor on all major roads into the city. It signposts a three-year-old collaboration between Manchester City Council, principal retailers and commerce to reverse what appeared to be an irreversible inner-city trading decline.

The aim is to lure shoppers back after a dismal 15 years when Manchester slipped from top spot outside London to between 12th and 20th on the shopping league table.

In 1981, Manchester shared many of the problems of other regional centres - a falling population and declining manufacturing especially east of the city. But the retail trade was collapsing even faster than the economic base was crumbling. A survey in 1982, showed 180 vacant shops. In particular the decline of Oldham Street was accelerated by the lemming-like rush for space in the Arndale Centre, the largest covered

shopping mall in Europe and the supposed flagship of a new shopping era.

But as the Arndale opened in fits and starts throughout the mid-1970s, many shoppers switched their loyalties to the city's nine satellite towns, where car parking was cheaper and easier. At the time, estate agents Dunlop Heywood diagnosed city centre depression. Their report concluded: "During the building of the Arndale shopping centre, the city centre was partly devastated. At the same time multiples opened in the redeveloped satellite town centres."

The Arndale, which covers 13 acres of prime retail space, was consistently dogged by controversy. It was criticized as the "longest lavatory wall in Europe," crime was rife and customers complained of getting lost in the warren of dimly-lit walkways. The precinct soon lost trade. High rates made units expensive to run and since 1981 more than 30 companies have been forced into liquidation.

Five years ago Lewis's department store, Market Street,



Winning people back to the city centre: above, St Ann's Square, adapted for modern shopping, and, right, the Britannia Hotel.

hinted they may be forced to pull out altogether - and Woolworth was scheduled to follow. Manchester was caught in its own trap. A general lack of investment had left the city without an integrated transport

system and shoppers complained of tedious bus journeys, filthy streets and difficult car parking.

Howard Bernstein, principal assistant to the town clerk, said: "It was an image problem. Manchester was seen as a dying city at the time." The fightback - under the banner Manchester City Centre Right At The Heart Of Things - was launched at Christmas 1982. It attacked on three fronts: access, appearance and attitudes. Sceptical store bosses were persuaded into joining. A £150,000 budget was allocated and a public relations firm was instructed to give Manchester the hard sell.

A press, television and radio campaign was aimed at promoting a series of Christmas events. Improved signs guided shoppers into the city where car parking charges had been reduced, stores stayed open later and the "dirty old town" was given an extensive wash and brush up.

That year, there were an estimated 50,000 more trips into the city over the campaign period. Retail figures showed much of the previous year's lost ground had been recovered. Last year's campaign cost £250,000 and presented Manchester as a regional centre with amenities, like upmarket pedestrianized shopping streets, museums, theatres, art galleries and restaurants, that the satellite towns lacked. Result: sales increased by 16.1 per cent compared with a national average of only 10.5 per cent.

More cash changing hands prompted a major wave of retail expansion - unthinkable in 1981 - from one end of the high street to the other. Last year, Lewis's spent £1m refitting the ground floor and there was no more loose talk of pulling out.

John Begg, managing director, said: "This was largely because of the confidence generated by the council. Three years on, we are very happy to be here. We like the initiative the council took. They are among the most cooperative of any in the cities we trade. Our Manchester store is running at just about twice the company's average in trade."

Kendals invested £3m in revamping their basement departments and overhauling escalators to improve access. This month Marks & Spencer, Market Street, opened a £3m sales floor linking the store with the Arndale and creating 180 full-time jobs. Sales have increased 25 per cent in the 12 months up to March 1984 making their returns the company's best in the country. John Brooks, store manager, said: "Our company have shown their faith and commitment to Manchester by this investment. We have enjoyed a superb two years. The city centre has been enhanced by attractive pedestrianization, traffic re-routing and car parking at attractive rates. The promotions have been very successful and this year's will be bigger than ever."

Russell Jenkins

Best of the past

Manchester's planners have returned to the city's glorious Victorian roots to reshape a city for the future - by suddenly discovering the rich potential of the city's commercial and industrial heritage after decades of decay.

The monolithic reconstruction of the 1960s left blighted breeze-block housing disasters such as Hulme and Fort Beswick. A decade later, a boom in office block development scarred the elegant nineteenth century skyline and many are still waiting for their first tenants.

As Manchester tries to weather the recession, nothing typifies the new mood for preservation, conversion and reuse better than the Central Station. The first stage of an exciting double act between public and private sectors is the £14m conversion of the The Great Train Hall, built in 1880, into an exhibition and event centre. It is Britain's biggest urban-renewal scheme of its kind and the joint owners, Greater Manchester Council and Commercial Union Properties, predict the complex will act as a catalyst to revitalise a 27-acre swath of derelict land only 400 yards from the city centre.

Over the next 15 years its planners believe the scheme will draw more than £100m of investment cash, transforming the previously neglected south side of Manchester from the River Medlock at Oxford Road to the River Irwell boundary.

The GMC's chief executive, Tony Harrison, said: "The Great Train Hall is a building of stupendous dimensions. The exhibition and conference centre will be a major generator of

economic activity and commerce."

From 1968, when British Rail finally abandoned it, Central Station was a gigantic wasteland. Malcolm Reece, project manager, said the sheer size inhibited developers. GMC acquired it in 1978 for £1.5m, found a commercial partner, launched a joint feasibility study which resulted in an £8m government grant and planning permission. Phase one is scheduled for completion next autumn. G-Mex (Greater Manchester Exhibition Centre) will double as a national and international sports arena.

Castlefield was officially declared Britain's first urban heritage park in 1982. More than £7m has been sunk in the

the "no-man's-land" off Tib Street to encourage renovation and new building, especially housing and as Peter Deacon, tourism development officer, said: "The £500,000 improvement project provides for landscaping and pedestrian access in a Petticoat Lane-style growth."

Conversion has also attracted private sector investment over the same period. This month the Britannia Hotel, described as a bizarre example of Victorian eclecticism, was commended in the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors 1984 Conservation Scheme. Sponsored by The Times, Judges said further decay of the Samuel and John Watts cotton warehouse would have been a "public disaster. Its restoration a life-giving process."

Similarly, the restoration of the Barton Arcade and the skilled conversion of the Royal Exchange shopping precinct has given new life to St Ann's Square - the city's most fashionable shopping centre.

The chamber of commerce and industry nevertheless launched a competition for proposals to transform empty buildings and vacant plots.

Nine key buildings were pinpointed, including St George's Church off the Mancunian Way, the Deaf and Dumb Institute at All Saints and the forbidding Ducie Street warehouse near Piccadilly Station.

Paul Sanlter, the chamber's chief executive, said: "Manchester is renowned for its architectural heritage - too much of it redundant. That is what we are aiming to encourage with this competition - positive ideas to safeguard Manchester's heritage."

RJ

MEETING INDUSTRY'S NEEDS FOR THE NEXT DECADE

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- MAINTAINED OVER 5,000 MILES OF ROAD EVERY YEAR.
- PLANTED OVER 1,000,000 TREES A YEAR.
- HASN'T RAISED BUS FARES IN NEARLY 3 YEARS.
- WORKED HAND IN HAND WITH PRIVATE ENTERPRISE TO BUILD A MUCH NEEDED EXHIBITION AND LEISURE COMPLEX FROM THE RUINS OF A VICTORIAN STATION.
- BUILT ATTRACTIVE, TRAFFIC FREE SHOPPING AND COMMERCIAL CENTRES.
- GIVEN VITAL SUPPORT TO CULTURAL BODIES LIKE THE HALLE ORCHESTRA, ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE AND NORTHERN BALLET COMPANY.
- MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANCHESTER AIRPORT AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL GATEWAY.

The Government's Abolition Minister, Patrick Jenkin, has misleadingly described the Greater Manchester Council, and the other metropolitan county councils, as "a wasteful and unnecessary tier of government."

A look at the record of the GMC confirms that this metropolitan county council is, in fact, an efficient and very necessary local authority.

Vital to the needs of the 2.6 million people who rely on GMC to organise countywide services.

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Do you think this will make things even better for Greater Manchester?

We don't.



MAKING GREATER MANCHESTER GREATER.

ISSUED BY THE GREATER MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN COUNTY COUNCIL. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GMC, COUNTY HALL, MANCHESTER M60 3HF.

Chinatown's odd story

When Chinatown's first Chinese pub opened in George Street in the heart of Manchester's pagoda path in mid-summer one round-eye complained bitterly that the Tsing-tao beer was warm. He might also have remarked that the barmaids in the Chinese Garden cocktail bar - or Fu Yu - were typical English roses dressed in untypical red silk cheongsams.

When the bar opened, take-away owner Lin Loi Hong hung two lettuce and two red envelopes of money in the doorway to feed the red lion and the rainbow lion. It was meant to ensure eternal business success but the gods usually smile on Chinatown's sober, besuited businessmen with or without appeasement.

Only a decade ago, the quarter they took over as their own was a derelict ghost town of decaying textile warehouses - bordered by Princess Street, York Street and Portland Street. With 20,000 residents, it is the fastest-growing Chinese community in the country and the largest outside London. You can find acupuncturists from Shanghai and herbalists from Canton; Cantonese restaurants proliferate, sharing pavement space with casinos and seedy cinemas advertising "exotic dancers."

It began in the late 1950s with what Loret Lee, chairman of the "high street chop suey era," with a few cavernous Chinese emporia dotted around the city.

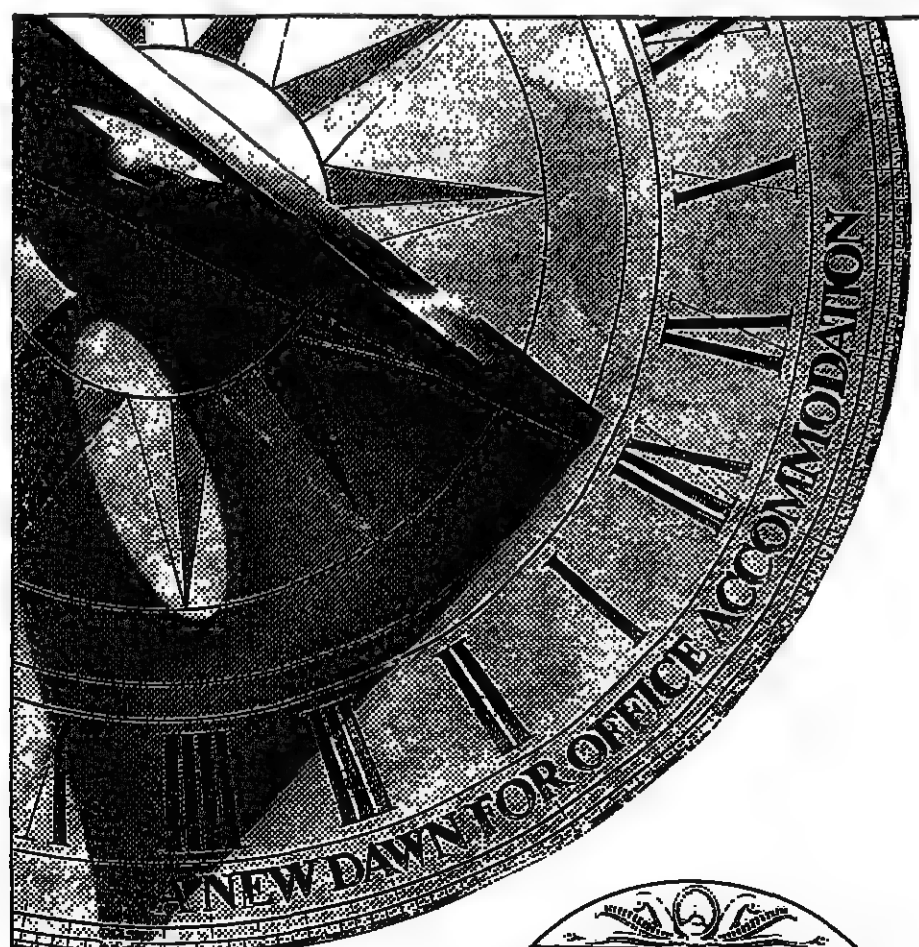
Mr Lee said "I was the architect of the Willow Garden Restaurant on Deansgate. It was a large chop suey house with a three-piece band and waiters all dressed up in tails. We served up things like bean sprouts with a lot of gravy but good value. At that time the British did not have a clue about the genuine article."

After hours, the original Chinese workers and their fast-arriving brothers and cousins would gravitate to the Kaluki Club in the edge of present-day Chinatown.

Whenever Granada Television needed oriental extras they would ring Mr Lee - then the Kaluki boss - and he would round up his friends for a day's work. "That way the media people and the Coronation Street set started to come to my restaurant," he said.

The Kaluki folded and made way for the Kwokman restaurant, just as the first influx of Hong Kong immigrants arrived - with business capital raised from the sale of farmland. Chinatown was born.

RJ



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سكنا من الامل

How a park is pointing the way to the future

Manchester's new science park - so new, it has yet to be officially opened - is one of the brightest lights at the end of the tunnel pointing towards the future for the city. It is an open acknowledgment that the old days of commerce and industry which forged the city into a force once to be reckoned with are gone and that the decades ahead should be looked at with high technology and computerization in mind.

The £1m, two-storey building in Lloyd Street North is right in the heart of the city's university complex, the largest in western Europe. Four local companies are backing it financially: Ciba Geigy, Fothergill and Harvey, Ferranti and Granada Television. They have a 30 per cent interest, with the city council and Manchester University holding half each of the remaining 70 per cent share.

University links

Final fitting-out work is to be completed on the building, which offers 24,000 square feet of space. All should be finalized before the middle of next month. The identities of those companies are being withheld until final agreement has been reached.

The concept science park was the subject of talks between the university and city several years ago.

Things began to move the

more both sides realized its importance. The city provided the 15-acre site on a 125-year lease and the minority shareholders were invited to participate in the scheme. Support also came from the Urban Development Programme under the Department of Education.

One thing still required was a man to head the project and he came in the form of Dr Derek Burr, who had previously worked as a metallurgist at the Birmingham base of the Canadian nickel mining and refining company, Inco.

Dr Burr said: "We are providing, essentially, a location for high-technology companies close to the academic institutions, with telephone and direct computer links with the university. 'We are accepting only companies which have, or we are confident intend to have, a link with such institutions - these include the university, UMIST (the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology), Manchester Polytechnic, the Manchester Business School and Salford University."

The basic concept of science parks originated in America and has been taken up in Britain over the last 10 years. They have become established in one form or another at Warwick, Aston (Birmingham), Cambridge - probably the best-known of all so far - and in the West of Scotland at Glasgow

and Strathclyde. English Industrial Estates are establishing them on a commercially run basis at Bradford and Leeds - "and a lot more are being talked about," said Dr Burr.

Both major shareholders make great play on Manchester's geographical accessibility, with its proximity to the motorway network and the international airport as being major plus factors.

When the "start-up building", as they call it, is fully operational, anything up to 20 companies could be utilising its facilities. The ground floor provides design/development workshops from 1,000 sq ft and the first floor laboratory of office units from 500 sq ft. Initial charges are rental at £2.25 a sq ft with a service charge varying from 75p to £1.50 a sq ft on top.

Clear message

Any company with a new idea of development plans in just about any field such as micro-computing, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals or robotics - would be a welcome client.

The university is strongly considering the establishment soon of a technology club close to the science park in order to strengthen the links between the academe and industry.

ML



Manchester City Council Labour-controlled and has been since the Second World War, apart from four years of Tory rule from 1967 to 1971.

Labour has a working majority of 59 - with their 79 councillors facing only 14 Tories and six Liberals across the council chamber.

It has always been a regional capital, insists the council and Labour leader, Graham Stringer. That view is backed by Jack Flanagan, chairman of the council's economic development committee, chairman of the ASTMS divisional council and one of the country's many unemployed. He lost his job along with one of his sons and several hundred others when wire-makers Richard Johnson and Nephew closed last year under the government rationalization programme which affected, among others, the wire industry.

It was not the only factory to close. East Manchester had a thriving mixture of light and heavy engineering companies but the recession and changing trading patterns saw the area crumble and "it left us with hundreds of acres of complete dereliction", said Mr Flanagan.

Billion pounds

The blame for Manchester's no longer being a thriving industrial force is cast on the Government. The local government reorganization by the Boundaries Commission did Manchester absolutely no favours by simply leaving it untouched.

The big banana that was once a capital



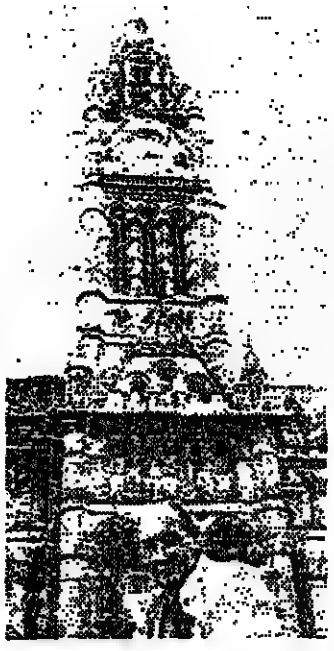
Council leader Graham Stringer and, far right, Jack Flanagan outside the town hall campaigning to help local industry

The banana-shaped city boundary was permitted one slight deviation to "capture" the International Airport - a vital communications link for the city and the entire North-West. Said Mr Stringer: "If the airport can do for us over the next 30 years what the Manchester Ship Canal did for the first 60 years of this century. The development of Manchester as a gateway to the North, via the airport, is very important." The threat of Stansted airport, he continued: "We argue that if you are going to spend one billion pounds, it should be in the North, not the North-East."

"The ecological and environmental arguments all go to prove that Manchester, with

Newcastle and Leeds providing regional back-up, has the available capacity. And Manchester needs the extra facilities to strengthen the links with different countries to benefit industrial development in the North-West - facilities which London already has."

The fact that Manchester's boundaries remained unmoved, therefore denying it the chance to embrace any of the numerous surrounding satellite towns, has had two main effects. Industry has, over the years, moved out of the city - with some withdrawing in the face of heavy city rates, simply setting a situation where it is at the centre of a population concentration of 2½ million, but only half a million actually "belong" to them.



Stringer says: "We simply must have more working capital to maintain the high standards of quality of the services expected from us."

The strictures from the Government have meant that the city has had to draw in its horns on many things, including housing. They accept that high-rise dwellings do not work and in one area at Beswick (part of the once-thriving industrial complex including Ancos, Clayton, Openshaw, Bradford, Miller, Plating and Newton Heath) more than 1,000 flats are being demolished. "They were neither socially nor structurally sound," said Mr Stringer.

Bright prospects

Mr Flanagan also blames the Government for the housing situation. "They have never worried about the social consequences," he said, "but we are grasping the nettle as hard as we can and our philosophy is to get rid of unpopular housing, demolish those flats, and continue with our policy of new low-rise development and the refurbishment programme on standard property."

The campaign, started in 1981, to get people back into the city has been considered a success. And with the new science park - a joint venture between the city, university and local firms - to help developing industries get off the ground, the prospects for the city look as bright as the lights already erected over the streets to beam out the Christmas message: Come To Manchester - We Need You.

Malcolm Long

What the hotels offer

The undercover authors of *The Dirty Weekend Book* recently singled out the jacuzzi in the Britannia as the sexiest spot in Manchester. Certainly the hotel, described by its owner, Alex Langsam, as a "bit of theatrical razzamatazz" has brought colour and life to staying in the city and encouraged other big hotels to spend money on their own operations. The Britannia, built in 1858, underwent a £15m conversion two years ago.

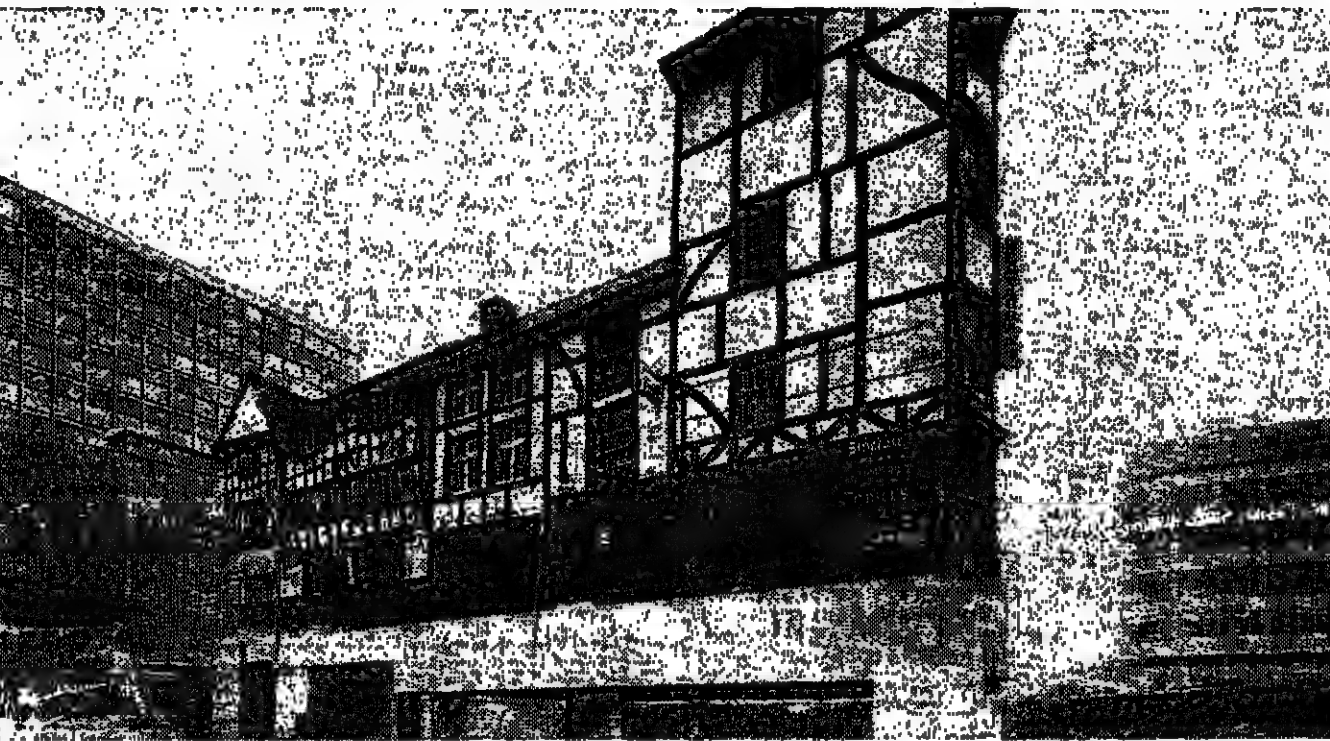
John Buttery, Portland Hotel general manager said: "Most of the hotels in Manchester all enjoyed large investment in the early 1970s but then the money dried up."

Now the Piccadilly Hotel has poured £2m into a refit and the Grand is also investing heavily. The Midland acquired last year by the GMC and Commercial Union Properties Ltd, has been given a new lease of life and more than £14m is being spent to link the hotel.

Last year nearly 12 million tourists visited the North-west, spending £535m. In Manchester, 2.7 million of them spent £27m. Peter Deacon, the city's tourism development officer, said: "Occupancy figures have increased, so hotel groups have felt justified in investing in refurbishment schemes."

Eating out has also been revolutionized over the past decade as Chinatown and "Little Calcutta" in Rusholme have smoked out the over-priced and second-rate.

RJ



Going, going but not gone: despite development of the city centre (see picture below), this Mancunian landmark was saved

A big gamble for revival

Manchester City is making a comeback. This is not a reference to one of the two famous football teams, although it is making a valiant effort to return to the First Division. It refers to the city itself. Many years ago Manchester was in the first division in commerce and general industries, such as steel and textiles.

Andrew Toop, president of the north-west region of the Confederation of British Industry, said: "There used to be a time when they said 'What Manchester thinks today, the rest of the country thinks

tomorrow.' That is simply not the case nowadays."

Industry has been on the decline for many years, especially on the east side of Manchester, which used to boast many steel and light and heavy engineering complexes. But that decline is, after all, one which can be repeated in many other country capitals - a story of recessions, changing trading patterns, unemployment, and central government clamp-downs and restrictions on local government spending.

There is still the unquestionable claim that Manchester is second only to London on the national finance and commerce fronts in providing second homes for the major banks, insurance companies and building societies. Most have their No 2 offices in Manchester, where the Co-op Bank has its main headquarters.

This is underlined by the fact that Manchester Business School has the biggest and most comprehensive banking study courses at national and international standards anywhere in Europe. It is the major business-school centre for every bank in the UK, as well as for several overseas banks.

Foreign banks favour Manchester, emphasizing once again its important role as a financial capital. There is the Algemeene Bank of the Netherlands, the Bank of China, the Bank of Haploaim - one of the few Israeli banks outside London, the Swiss Bank and the banks of Hong Kong, India and Pakistan. It is on those streets lined by big banks and businesses, that Manchester is putting down all its cards in the gamble for revival... a campaign to get people back on the city streets and into the shops, cafes, pubs and clubs, the art galleries and museums, the theatres and cinemas and restaurants.

Getting people back into the city was not easy. Over the declining decades satellite towns such as Stockport, Altrincham, Wilmslow, Bury Bolton, Oldham and several others started to come into their own. As industry seeped out of the

big city and into their paths, they decided to do something about it. The main effect was a massive mushrooming of shopping centres and as small towns became so efficiently self-sufficient people did not need Manchester any more.

Jack Byrne, president of the chamber of trade, is among the first to admit that it took some time for the penny to drop - and then, by simply doing something about it, they paid the penalty of thinking big. Manchester's Arndale shopping centre is the biggest in the UK, but it took almost 15 years before completion. Mr Byrne said: "It was as if we had dug the centre right out of the city to build the Arndale. During those long years while it was just like a huge hole in the ground. People gradually found it more convenient to shop in comfort nearer their homes."

"When we finally finished the Arndale and got it more or less into production, we had to start convincing people to come back into Manchester. But then we had a collapse of major proportions of the sewerage system right in the city centre - that took another 18 months to put right. But while all this was going on a big pedestrianization scheme was pushing ahead, so we now have a free-from-traffic shopping centre."

Mr Toop commented: "Manchester's future lies in as far as it can develop as a centre for finance and commerce and if it can fight off the attractions of the shopping centres in the surrounding towns. The process of contraction of industry has a spin-off effect in that the little fleas who lived on the backs of the big fleas have had to disappear as well. It makes the battle to keep people even harder. The population reduction, from three-quarters of a million 15 years ago to half a million now, has been most significant in relation to the age structure of the people left - the younger element has departed on the trail of employment."

ML

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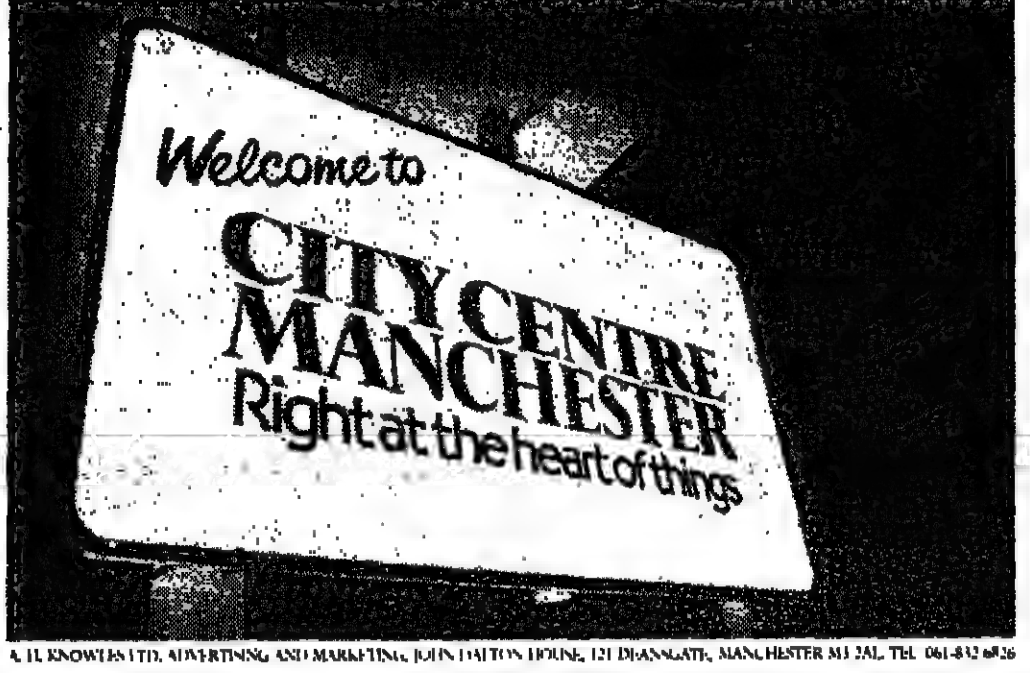


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Academia's golden mile

When it comes to higher education there is practically no area where the city of Manchester can be successfully challenged. The three main educational contenders are the Victoria University, more usually known simply as Manchester University; UMIST (the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology), a totally financially-funded autonomous unit from Victoria; and Manchester Polytechnic.

The city-centre geographical sitings of this formidable trio means they are all linked by the appropriately named Oxford Street (which becomes Oxford Road) acting as a sort of main artery on this golden academic mile, which provides an educational complex generally regarded as the biggest in Western Europe.

Medical pride

Manchester University itself is the largest in the UK when viewed as a single entity and taking into account that others, such as London with its separate Imperial and LSE institutions, are split. It has more than 80 teaching departments with subjects ranging from Astronomy to Zoology for its 11,500 full-time students (add another 1,200 part-timers). The 2,350 academic and related staff and the 3,000 non-academics all do their bit toward spending the massive

annual budget of £64m. The university is now thrusting ahead with its own research consultancy and commercially exploiting the university's inventiveness in fields as varied as laser technology and micro-computers.

The staff are proud too of their Medical School, which turns out 275 doctors a year.

Walk up the road towards the city centre and you come to UMIST where, although its modest number of 4,000 students (a quarter of whom are postgraduates) does not begin to compete in terms of size, they do enjoy a unique presence. UMIST was originally founded as the Manchester Mechanics' Institution in 1824, before being incorporated in the faculty of technology at the original university in the city.

Under its charter, UMIST remains independent, complete with its own governing body and financial structure. The only links with Victoria are purely academic with the degrees awarded being those of the University of Manchester.

Not just because of strictures on grants from the Government has UMIST emerged as a major source to which executives from the world of industry now turn for professional help. Last year it reaped £6.3m research income profit from these outside sources - nearly half as much again as the previous year - as it becomes increasingly recognized in the multifarious world of research.

One of UMIST's 21 departments comprises the country's newest department to be estab-

lished in any university - instrumentation and analytical science. With its capabilities to cover research projects ranging from skin-testing to industrial sensors, such as indicators to detect gas build-ups in the holds of oil-carrying tanker ships, the department has already proved its financial worth many times over.

Among other impressive statistics which UMIST provides are that among 21 departments - four solely for the use of postgraduates - there are no fewer than 1,300 separate research projects under the academic microscope.

Some may end up alongside the pioneering research at the university, where the much-publicized research into how to turn domestic waste into high grade oil was developed.

Fantastic range

The college has the only degree course in paper science, and its corrosion and protection centre, whose work is much sought after by North Sea oil drilling companies, is the largest in the world.

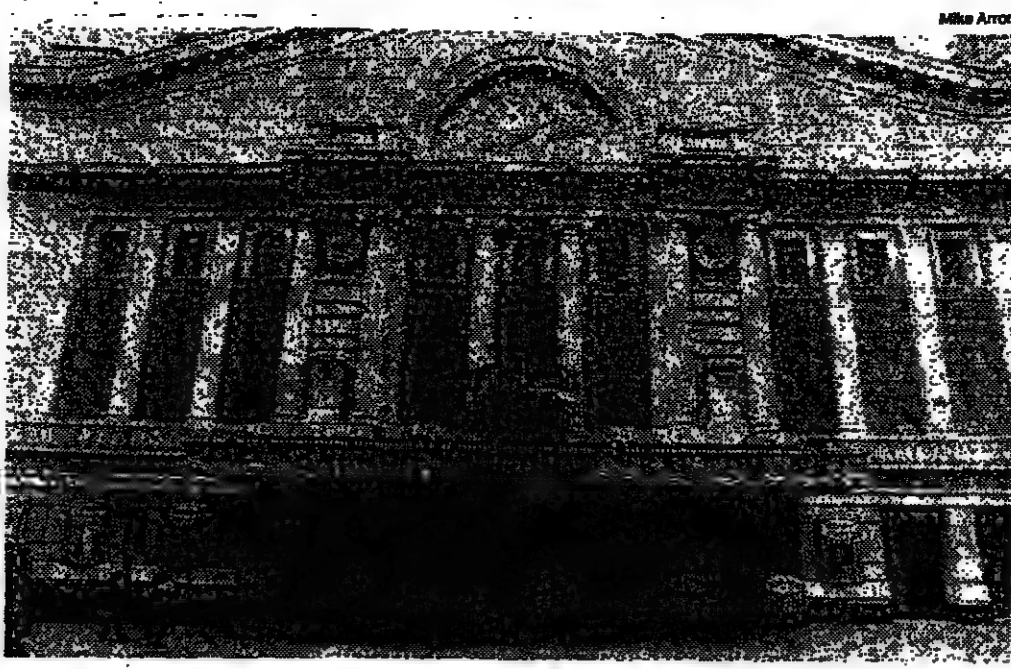
Move down Oxford Road a little and right in the middle of this educational zone is the Polytechnic with its 15,000 students. The poly also started out as a conglomerate of other colleges 14 years ago.

Once again, it figures in the "biggest is best" statistics because it is by far the country's largest polytechnic. It has a fantastically comprehensive range of subjects - there are nearly 300 courses - and many of them, such as three-dimensional design, hotel and catering, and business studies have achieved international reputations.

A hitherto unmentioned university of excellence which lies within the golden zone is the Royal Northern College of Music, where there are just under 500 places.

Not quite within the periphery of the city boundaries, but less than a mile away, is the university of Salford where special research and development facilities have been used by the Defence Ministry, European Space Agency and the US Air Force.

ML



The city's Opera House: all the razzamatazz

Bouncing back with Barnum & Crawford

Even before the circus had officially arrived in town, Barnum had taken £1m in advance bookings. The six-figure barrier was broken more than 24 hours before first night curtain up at the Opera House setting a provincial record and equalling the all-time record set by the London Palladium production of *Starlight* in the 1970s.

Now the star, Michael Crawford, is halfway along the tightrope of a 17-week run. It is a long time since there were daily queues stretching along Quay Street with anything else but honey-bees on their minds. For Barnum marks not only a stunning showbiz coup and mega-bucks gamble but the return of a much-loved Victorian theatre after five dismal years as a bingo hall.

With the Opera House back from the cultural wilderness, it means Manchester supports six major theatres and continues in the grand style - what Bob Scott, Palace Theatre managing director, calls a "theatrical renaissance". He predicts the Opera House will bring in 600,000 paying customers each year. Add a similar number at the Palace Theatre on Oxford Road and "that's a lot of people", he said.

He believes attitudes to provincial theatre have changed. Audiences weaned on television will no longer stand for preposterous try-ons or warmed-over West End touring shows. "Barnum is a classic example," he said. "It is not some cut-down, cheap provincial version but the real thing with a great star and all the razzamatazz. Barnum would be astronomical to send on tour because it is such a complicated show."

The resurgence of commercial theatre came at a time when people were discovering the off-switch of their television sets.

says Mr Scott. Even more important, Raymond Slater, Northwest Holst group chairman, was prepared to "put his money where his mouth is" and back the Palace relaunch in May 1981. The theatre has since consistently attracted quality productions and now claims the best returns in the country for a general purpose theatre.

In its opening season, the theatre staged the Royal Opera's first UK season outside London for 17 years. It returned again in 1983 before the Arts Council withdrew financial support.

Mr Slater said: "Musicals, along with ballet, have done particularly well at the Palace. The musicals come in for a short run, make money in Manchester, then go off on tour and tend to lose money in other places. There have been runnings from the production companies. The solution, therefore, was to open the Opera House with a view to musicals that can run and run, perhaps a year, even two years."

When Mr Scott arrived in Manchester in 1968, an aura of decay and neglect hung over theatre in the city. "Sixteen years and two recessions later, we seem to have a genuine theatrical renaissance," he said.

In the subsidized sector, the opening of the Wythenshawe Forum as a satellite auditorium led the way. But it was the Royal Exchange, a remarkable theatre-in-the-round suspended over the trading floor of the old cotton exchange, which came to embody the new dynamism. It attracted the big stars, premiered its own productions, caught the imagination of West End critics and gave the city its third professional company alongside Contact (University Theatre) and the Library Theatre Company.

But the company, beset by

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UMIST GOES TO TOWN

Academics and commerce are marching hand in hand but never more successfully than in Manchester. The University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology has pioneered a unique scheme jointly with four city centre hotels and the Greater Manchester Conference Office to provide year round Western Conference Society.

For only £25 conference delegates can enjoy purpose-built lecture theatres, exhibition space, air-conditioned meeting rooms and a highly prestigious 400-seat restaurant. All hotels are within five minutes' walk of UMIST. This exceptional programme has already attracted over £100,000 of business.

Vacation trade for conferences has also proved a winner. With over 1,000 single study bedrooms all with washbasins; 22,000 square feet of exhibition space; a wide range of lecture theatres; a dining room to seat 600 and city centre parking for over 700 vehicles, it is hardly surprising that UMIST is attracting a large slice of the conference market.

Further details on special and other conference facilities can be obtained from Andrew Yates, Training Services, UMIST, PO Box 88, Manchester M60 2DS or Telephone 061 228 2313 extension 3452.

Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester

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Details of Hallé concerts in Manchester from Halle Proms Office,
11 Crown Street, Manchester M2 7JE. Telephone: 061-634 1172.
Details of Hallé concerts in London from Barbican Centre,
201 Regent Street, London WC1H 9EX. Telephone: 01-479 0722-0723-0724

Flying on in the face of a few letdowns

Manchester has had its own airport for more than half a century and for the last 46 years it has been sited nine miles south-west of the city centre. But the first gaggle of basic huts and sheds that greeted those early passengers has little in common with the ultra-modern, still-developing complex of today.

Manchester International Airport, as it is now known, claims to be the fastest-growing airport in Europe. This year it expects to handle nearly six million passengers, almost double the figure of six years ago. It is jointly administered by the Greater Manchester and Manchester City Councils.

In a remarkable aviation success story whose progress to still greater achievement is threatened by one major stumbling block: Stansted. Airport officials, the councillors who operate Manchester and a wide range of air and local authority interests represented by the North or England Consortium are bitterly opposed to proposals that Stansted should be developed, at a cost of around £1,000m as London's third airport.

They have fought a long campaign to persuade the Government that the country's network of regional airports, at Manchester in particular, are more than capable of handling the projected increase in air traffic.

Widely welcomed

The consortium argues that to sink such huge financial resources in the South-East would be unfair and unjustified. The outcome of the 1982 public inquiry is eagerly awaited.

One government decision has already been widely welcomed. The rejection of suggestions from the Civil Aviation Authority, which recommended that British Airways should hand over its routes from Manchester to the independent carriers, brought sighs of relief. If it had gone the other way there was grave concern for the airport's status without the services of the national carrier and for a shrinking of the routes on offer to passengers. Yet even under the Stansted uncertainty, development at Manchester has not stood still.

The main concourse, opened in 1962 by Prince Philip, has undergone an expensive facelift. Last year a computerized baggage-handling system was

installed for £2m and this year the check-in hall was re-modelled and extra check-in desks installed to bring the total to 57 to speed the processing of passengers.

Other projects underway include the £5.8m improvement to the international departure arrivals hall and a big extension to the international departure lounge which will cost a further £4m and provide seating for 500 extra passengers and a covered bus terminal for transport to planes parked a distance from the boarding gates. Perhaps the most ambitious programme is that being drawn up for the construction, at a cost of £100m-plus, of a second terminal to cope with predicted passenger levels into 2000.

Gateway promise

There is now a campaign to lobby the Government to change the bilateral agreements which cover long-haul flights to allow more foreign carriers to fly long-distance direct from Manchester. British Airways plans to start a scheduled long-haul service to New York in April but the only existing long-haul service now is operated by Qantas to Bangkok, Sydney and Melbourne.

To cope with the expected extra traffic, work is due to be completed in April 1986 on a satellite extension to the long-haul pier for up to 1,000 passengers. There is development, too, on the important freight-handling side - a new freight terminal is under construction on the western side of the airport costing £6.5m.

The airport's head of external affairs, Bill Charnock, says: "If we are allowed to develop in the way we want we can attract 9 million passengers a year by the end of the 1980s and up to 20 million a year by 2000."

To do that the airport authorities require three things of the Government: An easing of financial sanctions which prevents the airport going to the market to secure loans for expansion; permission to open up long haul connections and for development of Stansted to be rejected. "We are the natural Heathrow-Garwick of the North," says Mr Charnock. "We have a potential catchment of 20 million people. We just want the Government to give us the backing we expected when we were classified as an international gateway airport in 1978."

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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Small shareholders reject Carless bid

The Carless Capel/Premier bid saga ended yesterday with a clear victory for the Premier camp. By 3.30 yesterday afternoon, Mr John Leonard, Carless's chairman, had attracted acceptances from holders of only 32.7 per cent of Premier shares for his final offer.

After deduction of the 15 per cent of shares Carless itself bought in its dawn raid and the 8.3 per cent held by the American arbitrage specialist Mr Ivan Boesky, this means that the remaining Premier shareholders voted by a solid margin of seven to one against the bid.

The market was quick to give its own reaction to a deal that has never really liked, marking Carless's shares up 12p to 190p in relief, and trimming Premier 3½p to 60½p.

The outcome owes much to the rumbustious defence by Mr Roland Shaw, Premier's chairman, as well as to the loyalty of his higher-than-average number of small shareholders, who lived up to their traditional role by siding with the board. There were naturally smiles all round at Schroders, Premier's advisers, who have notched up another badly-needed victory after their much publicized troubles in the takeover field last year.

Mr Leonard, whose shares have taken a battering since he launched his bid, was putting a brave face on things last night. He was not saying what he intends to do with his 15 per cent stake in Premier, but it seems likely that he will eventually come to terms with Mr Shaw and arrange for them to be placed in friendly hands.

Mr Leonard is meanwhile pressing on with his search to find a new young chief executive to replace Mr Graham Hearn, poached by the Government for Enterprise Oil this year. Carless has a number of other things in its sights, though it will not say whether it includes another stab at an acquisition.

As for Mr Boesky, it looks as if he has made a serious miscalculation. Yesterday's outcome must mean he is left nursing a loss, and the jobbers will be waiting for him if he tries to liquidate his position.

Burmah starts the health cure

The most telling aspect of Burmah's announcement that it is selling off its chain of Halfords motor accessory shops is that it was not the company's idea. Had Ward White not made the suggestion, it seems highly unlikely that Burmah, on its own initiative, would have taken that decision.

Almost by chance, the Halfords sale fits into something approximating a corporate strategy. This is to concentrate on lubricants, specialist chemicals and oil exploration and production. The only problem with the strategy is that it does not seem to be working in terms of profit performance. Burmah is running very slowly to a stand still.

The reasons are to be found in the great pre-Christmas crash of 1974. Burmah was rescued from complete collapse but only at the expense of losing its most profitable and attractive businesses. The remnants left Burmah as a clumsy conglomerate masquerading as an oil company.

Mr John Maltby, the chairman, pleads for patience with some justification. He has inherited an organization which is still shell-shocked and driven only by the will to survive.

The task of instilling a more positive approach to life into his management team is not easy. Nor is it made any easier by the portfolio of businesses which come under the Burmah umbrella. The Quinton Hazell automotive products group has been up for sale for some time without any

sign of a buyer at the asking price. The tanker and terminal activities are disastrous loss makers. Then, finally, there is a collection of miscellaneous businesses grandly called the investment division which on a turnover of £79m last year barely made a profit.

Divestment on a grand scale is called for. It would free management time and release the funds which Burmah desperately needs to finance its core operations. Within the present structure, the cash-generating operations such as the ever-profitable Castrol division are being milked to prop up the ailing parts of the Burmah group.

The clearest example of this is in the oil production and exploration field where the group simply has not had the funds available to make the investment it needs to expand. Not only has this resulted in higher tax bills but it also impedes the continuity which is essential for sustained success in this industry.

If Burmah is to move ahead with its vague strategy, it needs to break out of the vicious cash flow circle which has hemmed it in for so long. Perhaps the Halfords sale will be the spark which sets Burmah's smouldering profits alight.

Buyouts may have lost 'bargain' tag

If anyone needed that extra fillip of courage to attempt a management buyout, they should look no further than Intem, a Midlands electronics company which is to be launched on the Unlisted Securities Market at a value of about £6.5m next week. In their buyout from the American group Kratos Inc in February, chairman and managing director Mr David Gare and his management associates had to pay only £45,000 for their stake, with Citicorp and the mining machinery group Dobson Park in tow.

On the terms of the share placing announced yesterday, the stake bought by Mr Gare and his managers would be worth about £3m. Even telephone subscribers working out their return on British Telecom shares could hardly dream of that kind of profit after eight months.

Intem operates in a specialist business of applying mini and micro computers to uses in technical and industrial markets, where a few managers at the top may be more than usually crucial. But this is not an isolated case.

On Monday, Alida Packaging, bought out from Rockware for £2.9m last year, will return to the stock market, or at least the USM, with a value of £7m, though £1.25m of that is newly-raised capital. And memories are fresh from the listing of Stone International last month. That comfortably made millionaires of three top managers who helped organize the company's purchase from the receivers of Stone-Platt Industries.

Management buyouts are now thankfully established. There must now be more than a suspicion, however, that the palmy days of buyouts are drawing to a close. Gone is the time when many large groups were in such trouble that they were desperate to dispose of peripheral subsidiaries at any price.

Managers still have an advantage of detailed information, the ability to assess prospects, know what went wrong as well as the potential for greater rapport with the shop floor in improving a company's business. But now more firms and receivers may question whether they are not selling too cheaply to managers and management buyers may find the prices they have to pay will make the balance of risk against reward less favourable.

McMahon demands 'due care and diligence' in bank lending

By William Kay, City Editor

Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon, deputy governor of the Bank of England, last night warned banks to be more careful about their lending and corporate treasurers to be more careful about how much they borrow.

Mr McMahon's speech at a dinner given by the Association of Corporate Treasurers, contained clear echoes of the difficulties in unravelling the problems of such companies as Dunlop and Johnson Matthey.

He said: "Companies have sometimes shown a reluctance to provide all the information sought by the banks. Conversely, the intensity of competition has meant that banks have not always pressed requests for the information necessary for them to make proper credit judgment."

Mr McMahon said that where this sort of situation

arose, banks tended to be less helpful towards their customers when "further accommodation or forbearance" was requested at a time of financial difficulty.

But the deputy governor did not spare the banks. "Where a company appears to be developing more banking connections than the scale and spread of its operations would seem to warrant, it should be for the lead bank to point out to the company the dangers of this course of action," he said.

"Any bank which has lent to a company is assumed to have done so with due care and diligence. It is, therefore, not expected to walk away from the problem," he said.

Mr McMahon disclosed that the Bank of England's "most famous horror story" was of a company with annual turnover of £32m, which borrowed £28m from 24 separate banks.

The Bank was unwilling to name the company yesterday, but it is understood to be not a household name. The company has ceased trading.

Mr McMahon said that apart from increased bank competition the cause of the problems was the computer revolution, which had produced a 24-hour-a-day capital market.

This had brought corporate treasurers into the game as players. In many cases they had become profit centres within their companies, giving them an incentive to go for short-term profit, he said.

An unstated effect of this has been to make the Bank's role all the harder, both as supervisor and lender of last resort.

Mr McMahon questioned the desirability of so much effort being put into financial activity at the expense of companies' primary activities.

But, given the existing conditions, he told his audience that they must exercise strength of character in resisting the temptation to play off the banks against one another.

"Time and again," he said, "with companies getting into difficulties and needing a financial reconstruction, we have been surprised - as indeed have the banks themselves - to find how fragmented the company's financing is."

Prudent treasurers, he said, should also avoid undue dependence on "money market" lines where there might be no formal right to draw, and where renewal at the expiry date could not be assumed with any certainty.

Mr McMahon added that both treasurers and bankers must exercise foresight and adhere to certain standards of behaviour.

Pound gains 1.3 cents

Sterling gained 1.3 cents to \$1.2310 against a weak dollar yesterday, the US currency closing below 3 Deutsche marks for the first time since September 12.

In thin markets, with many of the European centres closed because of the All Saints' holiday, the dollar lost nearly four pennings against the Deutsche mark on expectations of imminent US prime rate cuts.

The dollar closed at DM2.9940, down 3.85 pennings on the day. The dollar index fell 0.8 to 140.5. The sterling index gained 0.1 to 75.0.

Sterling's improved performance against the weak dollar raised hopes of an early cut in UK base rates. The key three-month interbank rate eased to 10½-10¾ from 10¾-10½.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1158.4 up 7.4 (high: 1158.4; low: 1147.7)
FT Index: 986.9 up 8.9
FT All Share: 546.10 up 2.62
Bargains: 18.725
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 104.11 up 0.48
New York Dow Jones Industrial Averages (latest): 1210.90 up 3.53
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index: 11,169.58 down 83.42
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index: 1029.28 up 14.73

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling 75.0 up 0.1 (range 75.0-74.8)
\$1.2310 up 1.30 cents
DM 3.8805 down 0.0170
FF 1.2850 down 0.03
Yen 301.00 up 1.55
Dollar Index 140.5 up 0.8
DM 2.9940 down 0.0385
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.2310
Dollar DM 2.9917

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10%
Finance houses base rate 11
Discount market loans weak fixed 10%
3 month interbank 10½-10¾
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10-9¾
3 month DM 5½-5¼
3 month FF 10½-10¾
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.00
Fed funds 10%
Treasury long bond 108½-108¾

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New York (latest): \$335.30
Kruggerand (per coin): \$345.50 - 347.00 (\$281.75 - 282.75)
Sovereigns (new): \$79.00 - 80.00 (\$64.50 - 65.25)
*Excludes VAT

Swiss may buy into Telecom

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

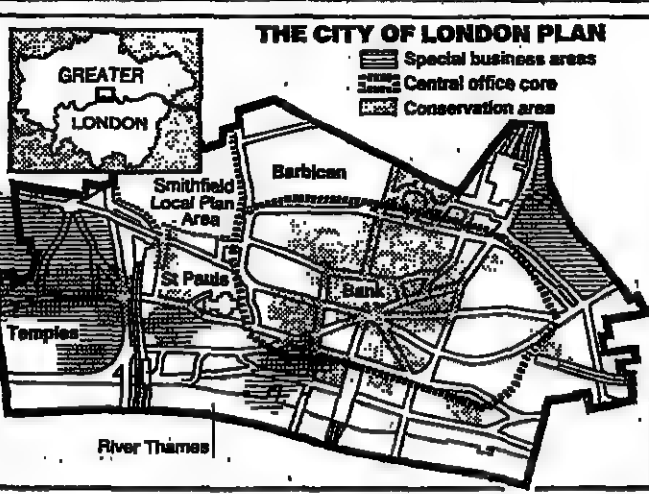
Swiss investors are queuing up to buy shares in British Telecom in what could prove to be a significant reversal of their long-standing mistrust of investment in British stocks and shares.

For the first time in any privatization issue, Swiss banks and financial institutions will be directly involved in the underwriting of the British Telecom share sale this month.

Swiss Bank Corporation International is taking part in the underwriting syndicate, led by Kleinwort Benson, and will be responsible for placing sub-underwriting with Swiss institutions.

Sir George Jefferson, chairman of British Telecom, was in Geneva and Zurich on Tuesday presiding over a presentation about the BT offer to Swiss investors. Both meetings were attended by more than 100 financial institutions, and demand for BT shares is higher than expected.

Mr Andrew Large, chief executive of Swiss Bank Corporation, said yesterday: "The Swiss have not in the past been a major admirer of UK Assets. They have tended to be rather conservative towards both the pound and UK equities."



FUTURE CITY: the draft plan for the City of London (above), now available for comment, is likely to be the subject of a public inquiry. The planners say that business and residents are their prime concern. Plot ratios may alter

£120m Midlands scheme

By Judith Hiley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Arlington Securities, the successful London developer of business parks, is joining with the Hayward Group, the West Midlands residential and commercial developer and construction company, to build a 200-acre, £120m business park next to the National Exhibition Centre outside Birmingham.

The site is under a zoning review by the Environment Secretary but the developers hope for a decision in their favour for high technology development by the end of the year.

Arlington Securities is to find the cash for the venture. One of its shareholders, the Philip Hill Investment Trust, looks the most likely source and Hayward will put in the land on which it has exercised an option to buy.

If the scheme receives planning approval it could bring 15,000 jobs to the area over the 10 years in which it will be developed with 3m sq ft of space.

JMB steps up pressure on Sipra firms

Johnson Matthey Bankers stepped up the pressure on Mr Mahmoud Sipra yesterday by obtaining an order appointing the Official Receiver as provisional liquidator to two more of Mr Sipra's companies.

JMB, which is now owned by the Bank of England since its near collapse last month, also indicated it would fight the writ issued against it by one of Mr Sipra's companies this week.

Loans to Mr Sipra's El Saeed Group are said to have played a big part in JMB's problems. Mr Sipra is resisting the bank's attempts to windup his interests.

The Official Receiver was appointed provisional liquidator yesterday to Bulk Ferts Inc and Trans-Gulf Corporation which are both registered overseas. He has already been appointed provisional liquidator to three other companies.

Deutsche Bank seeks City stake

By Jeremy Warner

Deutsche Bank, West Germany's largest bank, is seeking to become an investor in Morgan Grenfell, one of the top City merchant banking groups.

Negotiations now under way could lead to an injection of capital by Deutsche Bank, leaving with a share stake of at least 5 per cent.

The transaction would almost certainly mean the indefinite shelving of the merchant bank's plans to obtain a full stock market quote next year. Morgan Grenfell said, when it announced a £45m rights issue last May, that it was considering a listing but shareholders are content with the present arrangements.

Both Deutsche Bank and Morgan Grenfell declined to comment on the talks yesterday. However Mr Christopher Reeves, Morgan Grenfell's chief executive, said the bank was happy with the present level of its capital base, but "obviously we would be seeking opportunities to increase it because we are competing in a very big market place."

Mr Reeves said there was no question of Morgan Grenfell being bought outright or of a return to the situation of several years ago when a foreign bank - Morgan Guaranty - owned a third of Morgan Grenfell's shares.

Franchise industry heads for £5bn a year sales by 1989

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Franchising is having a greater impact in Britain than expected, with annual turnover running at more than £1 billion, according to the first comprehensive survey of the sector.

By 1989 turnover is expected to exceed £5 billion a year at today's prices and employment in the industry is expected to rise to 350,000 from 70,000 today.

The biggest target market is home maintenance and improvement, which accounts for nearly a third of franchises. London and the Home Counties account for 49 per cent of franchise operations, but there is growth elsewhere such as in Yorkshire where half the franchisees are involved in home maintenance.

Food and drink accounts for 18 per cent of franchises, although judged by turnover this is the key sector, accounting for 29 per cent of the industry's sales. Home improvements

MOST POPULAR FRANCHISES (%)

Business services	17
Food and drink	18
Clothing	3
Health and beauty	8
Home improvement/maintenance	31
Vehicle services	9
Transport	4
Communications	1
Personal durable goods	3
Leisure and training	12

Source: PRA survey (some multiple answers)

accounts for just 10 per cent of sales.

Business services including photocopying account for 17 per cent of franchises and 21 per cent of turnover.

The survey was commissioned by the British Franchise Association whose earlier estimates of franchising were based on surveying only its members.

It has 87 members among the 220 to 230 active franchise operations and screens its members on ethics and financial stability.

Until now it had estimated that franchising had produced about 50,000 jobs, with sector turnover likely to reach about £1 billion by this year end.

Mr Tony Duffield, the association's director, says: "We are encouraged by the high rate of success achieved by franchisees compared with that experienced by individuals setting up independently."

A third of the franchisees were content with sales achieved and nearly a half were content with profits.

Franchising - the Industry and the Market: Copies at £295 from Power Research Associates, 17 Wigmore Street, London, W1.

WHEN THE DIRECTORS OF A £2 MILLION COMPANY HAD THE CHANCE TO BUY IT OUT, HOW MUCH DID THEY HAVE TO PUT UP THEMSELVES?

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The remaining part of the equation was arranged with our help.

Together with another financial institution, an equity and loan funding package was arranged that will mean, depending on the company's success, the management having a controlling stake in their business.

Of course, to arrange this kind of package we need to hear a very convincing argument.

But that shouldn't be too difficult. Otherwise, why would you want

- £546,000?
- £80,000?
- £1,900,000?
- £263,000?

to buy out the company in the first place?

If you and your parent would benefit from a mutually agreed parting, why not talk to us.



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218	139	BPCC	171	•	•	•	12.8	75	113
219	139	Bruising	132	•	•	•	12.6	61	187
129	139	Die R/y	120	•	•	•	12.5	75	113
130	139	BPCC	171	•	•	•	9.9	28	48
131	139	Carton Cans	515	•	•	•	9.9	13	42.8
84	64	Cassini (R/R)	75	•	•	•	9.4	45	110
25	203	Chapman	229	•	•	•	9.4	61	110
122	92	Chapman	229	•	•	•	8.0	77	17
123	96	Cropper (James)	111	•	•	•	2.9	80	93
128	104	DND	155	•	•	•	2.3	60	92.3
76	76	E Lanza Paper	75	•	•	•	3.9	48	70
208	228	Europeans Help	445	•	•	•	3.7	40	79.1
143	143	Evans (Gordon)	143	•	•	•	7.1	20	42.8
268	148	Good Relations	225	•	•	•	7.1	20	42.8
195	105	McCormack	143	•	•	•	7.1	20	42.8

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BUSINESS

INDUSTRY TODAY

'Managed trade' presents new threat to world markets

Voluntary import curbs could have domino effect, says top US trade official

First, there were "voluntary curbs" to restrict sales of Japanese cars in the United States. This was followed by another "voluntary agreement" to cut European steel imports. Then President Reagan granted additional election-year protection to the US steel industry, announcing a new set of "voluntary curbs".

Is this a new trend in international trade? Is the world's largest industrialized nation moving from a system once perceived as free trade in open markets to one that becomes a "fair trade", implying limited restraint, to one that has become "managed trade" in the form of inescapable voluntary curbs?

Mr William Brock, the Reagan Administration's top trade official, said in an interview with *The Times* that the United States will not move to a system of managed trade - "Not as long as I am around".

But in reality, it becomes a question of semantics with Mr Brock, the US trade representative, agreeing that "there is a very serious real threat" that the growing use of the device of voluntary curbs by big industrialized nations will have a domino-like effect.

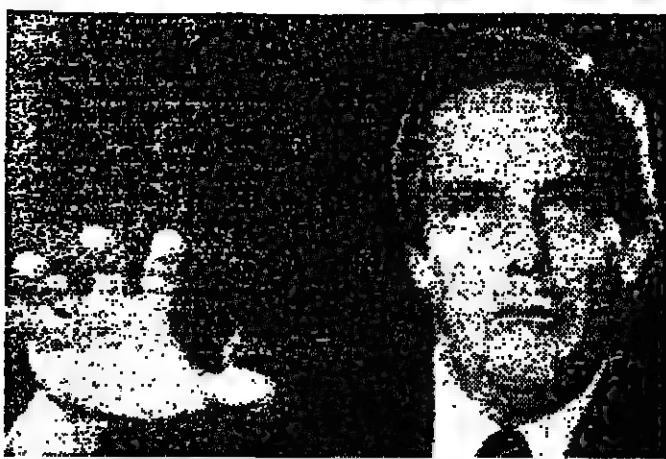
Big nations will begin carving up markets at the expense of developing nations and their own consumers to protect their own non-competitive industries.

It is already happening, not only in the United States but in Europe, and Canada as well. When the Reagan Administration adopted voluntary quotas on Japanese car imports, the other nations followed suit.

It is the beginnings of a trend which is likely to continue until the widespread use of government subsidies is phased out and older industries make painful adjustments to modernize, in the opinion of Mr Lionel Olmer, head of the US international trade administration.

Mr Olmer has no qualms about accepting the term, "managed trade". He said the

By Bailey Morris



William Brock: 'somebody always has to pay'

question before western leaders, faced with strong domestic political pressures, is not "open markets or closed markets" but how to realistically balance competing interests to keep the flow of trade moving.

If this is "managed trade", so be it. The alternative, in Mr Olmer's opinion, is a "trading system that could lose the support of governments and their private sectors".

The danger is this so-called sensible, middle course approach which the United States has adopted in an election year is that it will have the opposite effect on domestic industries than the one intended.

The aims of temporary, voluntary restraints are to limit unfair subsidies and to give industries breathing room to modernize.

But the recently negotiated agreement between General Motors Corporation and the United Auto Workers Union of American illustrates that informal global cartels, once organized, are difficult to displace.

The bottom line of the wage increases and job security measures contained in the newly authorized, three-year contract is that labour costs go up by an estimated 21 per cent and US cars remain expensive in comparison with Japanese cars.

Industry analysts said the car industry was so anxious to avoid a prolonged strike during the present US car buying binge that it gave the union too much, and in so doing, delayed taking

the cost reduction decisions necessary to make the products competitive.

The industry could not have afforded a settlement of this size, however, had it not enjoyed the protection of negotiated "voluntary restraints" on Japanese imports which have been extended before and are likely to be extended again by the Reagan Administration despite good intentions to the contrary.

Will the same happen in the US steel industry, which enjoys protection but has not been forced to modernize, and in a host of other industries as well?

"I accept the hazard that protectionist pressure, given the record US trade deficit, will be just as strong next year and just as strong in 1988" said Mr Brock.

"But if we start stepping in and protecting one industry after another, ultimately it will cost this country the ability to create jobs and to compete".

Can the Administration avoid more such forms of "managed trade" which in the case of Mr Reagan's latest steel decision is aimed at limiting foreign steel to 8.5 per cent of the US market by negotiating curbs on "unfair imports" from South Korea, acknowledged as the most efficient producer.

Spain, Brazil in addition to curbs on Europe and perhaps Japan?

Mr Brock is not certain but he said it is in the interest of all nations to resist such actions by exerting the leadership to

educate people to the costs. "Somebody always has to pay", Mr Brock said.

Nevertheless, he predicted that the biggest threat to US-European relations next year was a delayed agricultural trade war which could ignite overnight if either side takes the wrong step.

Once the recovery takes hold in Europe, governments will be tempted to protect their new prosperity. The "excessive costs" of continued farm subsidies will, in Mr Brock's opinion, put the European Committee under intolerable pressures.

This will occur at the same time as the United States is writing a new omnibus farm bill and will be "sorely tempted to do unto Europe what Europe has done to us". New "voluntary restraints" on European wines to protect California growers are not impossible under this scenario.

Who pays the costs? Victims of the newly announced steel curbs are US consumers and users of steel who face additional costs on a wide range of products of anywhere from 6 per cent to 7 per cent a year.

But last year's steel problem, in Mr Olmer's opinion, was caused by the rapid rise in low-cost exports from deeply indebted Third World countries seeking to generate trade surpluses to both meet interest payments on their debt and continue essential imports. During the process, many resorted to subsidies.

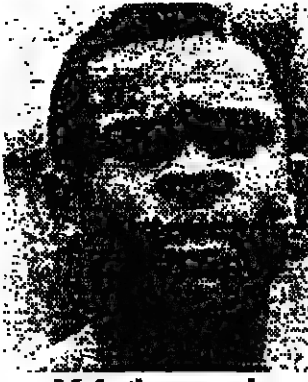
Import pressure from developing countries is not likely to go away over the next few years when large debt repayments are due and nations attempt to join in the global recovery.

This will only increase the pressure on industrialized nations to enforce their own trade laws against subsidized imports and to put limits on products which threaten domestic employment.

What is the answer? Mr Brock believes a large part of the solution may be found in policies which meld trade and finance goals for the purpose of keeping markets open. He hopes these solutions will be discussed at the spring meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The discussion may produce a freer, more productive form of managing trade.

ATHLETICS



Mafe: three awards

Mafe takes pride of place

Ade Mafe, the talented sprinter from Isleworth who reached the Olympic Games 200 metres final in Los Angeles, has won three of the Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) annual awards.

Mafe is 18 next month, receives the Philip Trophy for the best performance in the AAA indoor championships, a UK all-comers best of 21.28sec for 200 metres. He also takes the George Hogg Cup as the best junior sprinter of the year, and the Dennis Smith Cup as the best indoor sprinter.

The C. N. Jackson Memorial Cup, for the year's outstanding athlete, goes to Sebastian Coe for his gold medal in the Olympic 1,500 metres, backed by his silver in the 800.

Ireland's Ray Flynn wins the Harvey Medal as the best AAA champion, after winning the 5,000 metres in 13min 19.52sec. Donovan Reid (100 metres) collects the Peppi-Cola award for the best showing in the AAA championships.

OTHER AWARDS: JOHN THORNTON AWARD for the best high jumper performance in UK: T. Campbell (5ft 11.50sec); CARBON-UNION GOLDEN JUBILEE TROPHY for best performance in AAA championships: P. B. Baker (100 metres); 11th best performance in the AAA indoor championships: J. Turner (100 metres); 11th best performance in the AAA outdoor championships: J. Turner (100 metres).

Assurance and the AAA announced yesterday the continuation of the successful half-marathon series for 1985 and 1986.

Budd controversy, page 24

OLYMPIC GAMES

Soviet Union launch protest over Seoul

Moscow (AFP) - The Soviet Union has launched a full scale campaign to persuade the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to switch the 1988 Olympic Games from Seoul, the South Korean capital.

A flood of articles critical of the choice of Seoul have appeared in newspapers, here this week, leaving little doubt that the Moscow authorities have firmly decided not to accept it as an Olympic venue.

They have started their campaign just before the Association of National Olympic Committees meets in Mexico City on November 6 and a few weeks before the IOC holds a special meeting in Lausanne to discuss the future of the Olympic movement.

"It is not too late to repair the mistake made three years ago", the mass circulation newspaper *Sovetski Sport* said yesterday in a reference to the selection of Seoul at the IOC's meeting in Baden Baden in 1981.

The Soviet Sports Ministry has officially maintained it is too early to give a verdict on the choice of Seoul, though the Soviet Union has no diplomatic relations with South Korea. On August 30 the Sports

Minister, Marat Gramov, said he was not in a position to say if Soviet sportsmen and women would go. But, since Tuesday, critical statements by athletes have received big coverage in *Sovetski Sport* and the official government newspaper, *Izvestia*. The trend is reminiscent of the wave of anti-American publicity before the Soviet decision to boycott the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Sovetski Sport, which boasts a daily readership of 20 million, said it was "disappointed" about the selection of Seoul. "The lessons of Los Angeles should be followed up. What happened in the Californian capital should be a warning and should not be repeated."

Invan Yarygin, chief coach of the Soviet freestyle wrestling team, was quoted as saying: "It is not too late, the question (of the Seoul Olympics) should be reassessed."

Izvestia said: "After what happened in Los Angeles, the IOC should seek without delay a site other than Seoul for twenty-fourth Olympics."

Anatoly Evtushenko, the national handball coach, called on the IOC to take a "positive step in order to save the Olympic movement" - in other words, to look for a new host city.

VOLLEYBALL

Rodd makes return

By Paul Harrison

No British team have ever reached the second round of a European competition, but two of England's leading sides set out this weekend with high hopes that they can.

Capital City Spikers travel to Luxembourg and Hillingdon to Norway for their matches in the European Cup first round. Spikers, men's league and cup winners last season, have not been in the same all-conquering form this season, but they did record their first 3-0 victory of the season last weekend when they beat Manchester in the national cup competition.

Injuries have not helped, and now influenza threatens their camp, but they are determined to be eased by the return of their first choice, Steve Rodd. The match, against Bonnevise, is tomorrow.

Hillingdon, for some seasons the

strongest women's side in England, travel to an island in the Arctic Circle to play Scotland, the Norwegian champions, also tomorrow. They know little about the Norwegians, who at least have the advantage of having videoed one of Hillingdon's league matches. Hillingdon warmed up with two easy 3-0 league victories last weekend.

The two English clubs are combining forces for the return leg, to be held at the American School, St John's Wood, on November 11. Scottish teams cannot afford to play in the European competitions, but MIM did have a successful tour of the Netherlands, winning six of seven matches. They returned in time to resume battle in the Royal Bank League against EA-A, S-Q, Dundee Kirriemuir, despite losing their first match of the season, remain leaders.

HOCKEY

Berkshire call on retired player

By Joyce Whitehead

Because training for the England women's squad has priority this weekend, Nicki Goucher is being brought back from retirement to play for Berkshire in place of their captain, Karle Dwyer, an indoor international, against Loughborough University at Bisham Abbey on Sunday.

Berkshire can expect a good game and have a line in the information as one of their squad, Libby Williams (Assist), who is in the Loughborough team last year. Last

weekend Loughborough drew 1-1 with Nottinghamshire.

The home counties indoor championship will take place in Edinburgh on December 15 and 16 and this weekend Wales are training at the Western Leisure Centre, Cardiff, where they will be coached by Howard Williams (Cardiff HC). Their squad include one outdoor international, Chris Thomas (Swansea).

Kent, who last week tied with

Middlesex (both were unbeaten) at the end of their round-robin tournament with Cheshire and Surrey at Canterbury play Avon at Yeovil on Saturday. Avon, who were also successful last week, beating Hertfordshire 1-0, have three players from the local club, Esme Bezer, Alison Gilkes and Caroline Pocock.

At St John's School, Marlborough, today the west junior tournament starts at 9.30; the west junior trials are tomorrow morning.

SNOOKER

Davis may confront Reardon in last eight

By Sydney Friskin

Steve Davis, the world champion and No 1 seed, faces a possible quarter-final meeting with Ray Reardon in the Duxford British open championship, the draw for which was announced in London yesterday. This new event replaces the Yarnhill international tournament from February 17 to March 3 next year.

The new sponsors, ICI, are offering the biggest prize so far in snooker, £250,000 to the winner, and record prize money of £250,000. Also on offer is a prize of £25,000 for the maximum break of 147 accomplished during the last-16 stage of the tournament. The original entry of 96 professionals will be reduced to 32 in early rounds at Stockport, Bristol, Chesterfield and London before the scene shifts to Derby.

According to the seedings, Terry Griffiths is expected to meet Kirk Stevens in the quarter-finals. In the bottom half Cliff Thorburn could play Eddie Charlton at the same stage but there are some interesting early matches in this quarter. In the second round Alex Higgins could meet Neal Foulds, who defeated him in the qualifying rounds of the Rothmans Grand Prix tournament at Bristol. The remaining quarter-final could be between Tony Knowles and Jimmy White.

JUDO

Women hit new peak

By Philip Nickson

The most experienced women's judo team ever assembled by Britain for a world championship has been selected for the third such event in Vienna on November 10 to 11. With two world champions in the bantamweight Karen Briggs (Hall) and the featherweight Loretta Doyle (London), and a European champion in Diane Bell (Newcastle), as well as two European bronze medalists, the seven-woman team could be expected to match the three medals - two gold and one bronze - they won at the last world event two years ago in Paris.

But the team manager, Roy Inman, warned against "excessive optimism", particularly in view of the fact that Miss Doyle has barely recovered from a shoulder injury.

Clifford Kennelley, general secretary of the British Judo Association, said yesterday that the International Judo Federation were continuing discussions with the International Olympic Committee about the entry of women's judo into the 1988 Olympics. One possibility was a reduced involvement in Seoul.

TEAM: Bantamweight (under 48kg) K. Briggs (Hall, Featherweight (52kg) D. Doyle (Newcastle), Lightweight (57kg) A. Hughes (Northern Home Counties), Middleweight (62kg) S. Houghton (London), Heavyweight (70kg) T. Houghton (London), Super Heavyweight (over 72kg) S. Bradshaw (London).

Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			
Unit Name	Unit Type	Unit Size	Unit Description
1. United Life Insurance Co. of New York	Life Insurance	\$100,000,000	Life Insurance
2. Prudential Insurance Co. of New Jersey	Life Insurance	\$100,000,000	Life Insurance
3. MetLife Insurance Co. of New York	Life Insurance	\$100,000,000	Life Insurance
4. American International Life Insurance Co.	Life Insurance	\$100,000,000	Life Insurance
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88. BlackRock	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
89. Fidelity Investments	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
90. Vanguard Group	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
91. BlackRock	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
92. Fidelity Investments	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
93. Vanguard Group	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
94. BlackRock	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
95. Fidelity Investments	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund
96. Vanguard Group	Investment Fund	\$100,000,000	Investment Fund

Car Buyer's Guide

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Austin Rovers going cheap at the hypermarket

At 18 new Austin Rover dealerships in West Germany this week Austin Minis were on offer at £1,000 below UK list prices, Metros with £1,200 off and Majestros more than £1,800 off. But the bargain buy was the new Montego 1.6HL at £4,930, £2,040 below the UK recommended retail price.

These prices provide first-class ammunition for supporters of the EEC proposal to punish manufacturers whose prices vary beyond acceptable limits between one member country and another. But there is another, even more controversial, factor behind the cut price German offers: They are being made by the huge Massa hypermarket chain, which recently won Austin Rover franchises for 27 new dealerships in central and northern Germany.

At the opening of the Massa showroom in Alzey, near Frankfurt, on Monday, Austin Rover executives were questioned angrily by existing dealers about the threat to their livelihoods posed by super-market prices. They were assured that reports suggesting a secret deal between Massa and the company for reduced factory prices were untrue.

Mr Trevor Taylor, Austin Rover sales and marketing chief, said that the very keen prices were being subsidised by Massa. The Minis and Metros were special "limited edition" models intended to win customers during the opening weeks of a new venture. Only 300 would be available to Massa.

The fact is that Austin Rover has been far from happy with the performance of many of its 200 German dealers and has seized upon Massa as the means to inject new life into a moribund network by its aggressive marketing. It will also, incidentally, double the number of cars the company sells in Germany next year.

British dealers are following the German developments with some trepidation. They are haunted by the prospect of cars "over the counter" from Tesco or Sainsbury's.

Among the interested visitors to Germany this week was Geoffrey Barrett, chief executive of Barrelets of Canterbury, chairman of the Austin Rover Dealers Council. He returned with reassuring words for fellow dealers.

"The Massa set-up is quite unique. We have nothing like it in Britain and for that reason I do not think we shall see Austin Rover sit up with a superstore here. The Massa sites outside towns are like

small townships offering not just a huge hypermarket, but a sports complex, house building companies and a hotel and so on. The new Austin Rover premises in these sites are in quite separate buildings."

Austin Rover admits it has had talks with several British super-market chains, but all except one have fallen through because of the stringent requirements for separate premises supported by adequate spares and service facilities. It is far from optimistic about a deal with the surviving company.

Lancia Express

The new Lancia Thema executive saloon launched this week is the most exciting car to come from that much respected name since it became part of the giant Fiat empire. It will not be available here until the spring, but a day at the wheel of early examples in Austria made my nerve ends tingle at the prospect of a more lengthy acquaintance.

Thema has to be not just good but very good because it carries the awesome burden of resurrecting Lancia's image after the battering it took from its much publicised problems. These are now happily behind it, but if you are trying to sell upmarket cars at above-average prices you cannot afford the slightest blemish on your reputation.

Nothing lifts an image faster than an eye-catching expensive saloon being driven by more and more discerning businessmen. "If a Lancia is good enough for them, it is good enough for me," says the buyer of smaller cars from the same maker.

Three versions will be imported: a two-litre fuel injection, a two-litre turbo and, my favourite, a 2.8 litre V6 with very comprehensive equipment. It will cost about £14,000. This is the first time the Douvra-made V6, used by Peugeot, Volvo and Renault, has been installed transversely in a front-wheel drive car.

In other applications I have found it to be rather lumpy in the upper half of the rev. band. Not in the new Lancia, however. It is surprisingly smooth, and very fast. A new five-speed Fiat gearbox gets its first outing what a revelation compared with that company's present rather agricultural five-speeders.

But it is not enough to make a good-looking "express" for the enthusiastic driver. It must be seen



Fiat Regata 85 super: best in the range

to be well-equipped and expensive looking. Thema meets all these requirements. Its interior fittings, in particular, are carefully chosen to convey the impression of opulent comfort without being flashy. On the road, it was one of the most rewarding cars I have driven this year. Fast, safe and exciting. The V6 and turbo models are fitted with ABS anti-skid braking which really does permit you to steer the car through quite sharp corners while crash braking on wet roads.

All three versions will top 120mph, with the turbo just tipping the V6 to reach 135mph.

New Alpine

The same V6 power unit in both normally aspirated and turbo-charged form will be featured in the new Renault Alpine V6 Grand Tourisme Coupe which is just going into production at the Alpine factory in Dieppe.

It replaces the Alpine A310, but unlike that model will be sold in Britain. The V6 turbo Europa Cup version is reported to have 200 bhp on tap and will reach more than 150mph. As its name implies it will be seen on race circuits next year competing in the new Renault Elf European Cup series.

Regata's battle

Since it was launched here about seven months ago, Fiat's new family saloon, the Regata, has been striving to make headway against such formidable opposition as Vauxhall's Cavalier, Ford's Sierra and Austin's Montego. The problem for Fiat, however, is that in the British market the family saloon has to be perceived to be big and Regata looks smaller than its rivals.

In fact, at a fraction under 14 feet overall it is only marginally so. Montego is the longest, at 14.6 feet, with Sierra a couple of inches shorter. When I asked friends to categorize Regata, however, the put it in the same class as Escort and Maestro. Yet both these cars are about 10 inches shorter.

Whatever its image, Regata is a rewarding driver's car and family motorists looking for a compromise between run-of-the-mill transport and exciting performance could do a lot worse than go for a trial run. It comes in five versions, ranging from the Regata 70 Comfort with a 1299cc engine costing £4,990, up to the 1585 twin-cam Regata 100 Super at £6,790. All are very competitively priced.

For my money, the 85 Super at

£6,095 has to be the best value. The main difference between the Comfort and Super is the low profile tyres on special anti-drag rims and up-market fittings, such as electric front windows, central door locking and boot lift, a very practical electronically-controlled heating and ventilation system and an electronic check control panel about which more anon.

Fiat has always made good engines which thrive on hard work. The 85 Super's unit is not quite up to the twin-cam version in the 100 Super, but will nevertheless top 100mph easily and reach 62mph from a standing start in 11 seconds.

The five-speed gearbox had well chosen ratios with an overdrive fifth for fuel saving trips on the motorway. Mine was a little too notchy, however, with the result that I found myself feeling tentatively for changes rather than sliding through effortlessly.

But a couple of niggling problems rather spoil an otherwise rewarding relationship. Worst was the electronic

Vital statistics:

Model: Regata 85 Super.
Price: £6,095.
Engine: 1585cc 4 cylinder.
Performance: 0-62mph 11 seconds.
Maximum speed: 106mph.
Official consumption: 30.1mpg, 56mpg, 52.3mpg, 75mpg, 39.3mpg.
Length: 14 feet.
Insurance: Group 4.

check system which monitors eight major functions. When something was wrong a red light flashed above the appropriate symbol until it was rectified.

Almost as soon as we met, mine began to flash "no generator charge". The local Fiat agent spent half an hour under the bonnet and then pronounced the generator to be OK, but the check system faulty. Have you ever driven for several hundred miles with a red light flashing at you? On reflection, I wish I had taken his advice and disconnected it until a more permanent repair was possible.

The second niggle was the hand-operated choke, itself unusual in the age of the automatic choke, but still much preferred by the experienced, fuel-conscious motorist. The Regata's came away in my hand when its housing broke loose from the underside of the dash. It remained functional, with difficulty.

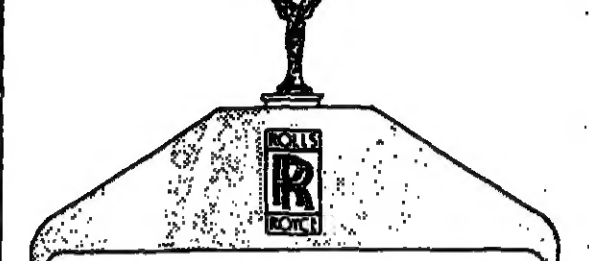
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Chestnut with Magnolia leather upholstery: 30,000 miles	1981	£35,500
Garnet with Beige leather upholstery: 6,000 miles	1981	£35,500
Redwood with Tan leather upholstery: 36,000 miles	1981	£34,000
Magnolia with Dark Brown leather upholstery: 1,500 miles	1982	£45,000
Magnolia with Red leather upholstery: 17,000 miles	1982	£38,500
Georgian Silver with Black leather upholstery: 5,000 miles	1983	£46,500
Royal Blue with Light Blue leather upholstery: 4,000 miles	1984	£53,500

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Tel: (0782) 3323 or 2407

Scab

SAAB 900 TURBO 3-dr. 75. Black. 20,000 miles. New car. £12,500. £22,500. Tel: Wolverhampton 0925 76557.
SA 900 TURBO 1976. F.H. 19,000 miles. £14,500. £24,500. Tel: 01-262 4444.

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1974 SILVER SHADOW I

Autobahn/Cray Silver. 75,000 miles. £10,950 o.n.d.
Tel: 01-402 1116

ROLLS SILVER SHADOW

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Bombed hotel frozen in time

India's new leader, page 12

E41 •

View from just below where the bomb went off (Photograph: John Voos).

The RAF operation is designed to be almost completely self-sufficient, apart from relying on local supplies of aviation fuel.

Mr Mondale quickly came to her defence and said that "she was far better prepared for the position than Mr Reagan was when he was elected President."

mysterious something that out there is stirring and moving. Some of us on the press stand get ready to leap to safety. "Let's go for it," shouts Mr Mondale. "Let's win it... We

[illegible]

Columbia	s 22 72	L.A. Times	c 18 84	Wayne's World	c 19 86	Washington
Chicago	r 7 45	Luxemburg	s 11 52	Rhodes	c 19 85	Washington
Church		Elford	t 18 64	Rhodes	c 28 82	Washington
				Rio de Jan	c 22 72	Zurich

* denotes Wednesday & figures are latest available